

Hafa Adai!

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INSIDE

NATION



Colorado mountain towns cut off for days by massive flooding slowly reopen.

► **PAGE 14**

WORLD



A wave of car bombings and other attacks in Iraq kill at least 58.

► **PAGE 16**

SUNSET CRUISE

Saipan Sunset Cruise Inc. entertainer Jerry Alcantara, right, sings and plays the guitar for tourists aboard the Jade Lady III on a sunset cruise on Saturday despite overcast skies and slightly rough waters. Tourist arrivals to the CNMI soared by 21 percent, or from 32,478 in July 2012 to 39,144 in July 2013, the largest percentage increase in visitor arrivals since June 2012, the Marianas Visitors Authority says.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Article 12 now goes to ballot

- » Proposed change allows those with any degree of NMD blood to own land
- » House accepts Senate amendment barring non-NMD kids from land ownership

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

After years of legislative debate on land ownership, the decision now rests with voters whether to approve or not a proposed amendment to the NMI Constitution's Article 12 to allow any U.S. citizen with "at least some degree" of Chamorro or Carolinian blood to be considered a person of Northern Marianas descent and can therefore own land in the CNMI.

See **ARTICLE 12** on **Page 4**

Deadline nears for Freedom Air

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Just days before its deadline to vacate all airport premises on three islands, Freedom Air has yet to pay or make any payment plan with the Commonwealth Ports Authority on the \$1.23 million it owes the agency.

In an Aug. 19 "final and irrevocable" notice of termination, CPA gave Freedom Air only until Thursday, Sept. 19,

to vacate airport premises if it fails to make full payment on its long overdue obligation.

Saipan Tribune learned that CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama met with Freedom Air executives several times in recent weeks but no final settlement was reached. Lizama flew to an off-island conference last Friday and has yet to issue a statement on the matter.

CPA board chair Jose Lifofoi con-

See **DEADLINE** on **Page 4**

» **Special board meeting called a day before deadline of notice to vacate**

Boat remains on Tinian reef

Il Sin Ho, one of three fishing boats that broke free from their moorings at the Tinian Harbor and ran aground on the reef at Kammer Beach early Friday morning, remains atop the reef yesterday, as authorities continue to assess the situation and ensure the safety of the responders and the environment.

Tinian resident Don Farrell disclosed

that authorities are taking precautions because of a possibility that the boat will sink when it is pulled from the reef.

The boat appears to be not steel, but rather fiberglass so it means there is some chance that when it is pulled off, the hull might rip open, Farrell said.

Lt. William White of the U.S. Coast

See **BOAT** on **Page 4**

Inos urged to oppose \$40.7M attorneys' fees

» **Senate poised to pre-file today resolution for those who opt out**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Around the same time Gov. Eloy S.

Inos was meeting with two senators on a tentatively approved NMI Retirement Fund settlement deal yesterday afternoon, the House of Representatives adopted a joint resolution urging the governor to object to \$40.7 million in fees proposed by Betty Johnson's lawyers as part of a global settlement.

See **INOS** on **Page 4**

Mt. Carmel School burglarized twice in a 9-day period. PAGE 5
56 foreign student teachers take charge of NMI classes. PAGE 6



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Local

All NMC classes for fall in full swing

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Classes at the Northern Marianas College whose start dates were earlier postponed due to the lack of instructors officially begun yesterday.

"We are glad to report that the classes that were set to begin on Sept. 16, 2013 are now running," said Barbara Merfalen, dean of Academic Programs and Services.

The college was able to go ahead with the classes after filling the vacant instructor positions necessitated by the implementation of the Board of Regents' new policy on minimum faculty requirements.

According to Merfalen, the fall semester is generally smooth and students are being engaged at all levels of the institution.

Earlier, the college confirmed that it has hired full time faculty

in the Business, Language and Humanities, and Science Health Math & Athletics departments, and have filled in the edges with qualified adjunct instructors.

NMC President Dr. Sharon Y. Hart said all new recruits were hired based on the newly adopted policy on minimum requirements.

"All of the new faculty [members] were recruited under the new guidelines and policy of the college's minimum faculty

qualifications which was approved by the Board of Regents. This is important as we continue to prepare the institution for our show-cause visit next month," said Hart.

The policy on minimum faculty qualifications was adopted in response to recommendations made by the external evaluation team of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges that visited the Northern Marianas College last October.

"In addition, we have hired some faculty with Ph.D.s, adding to a stronger educational base that, as the institution looks at adding more four-

year degree programs down the road, will showcase the institution in a very positive manner," said Hart.

23 classes cancelled

Based on the class schedule posted by the college for the fall 2013 semester, a total of 23 classes were cancelled, including many classes for music and physical education courses.

According to Marfalen, one of the new instructors will be assigned to teach some of these classes.

"One of the new faculty members recently hired will be teaching a portion of the classes that are part of the college's

physical education course offerings," Merfalen said.

She said the hiring of new full time faculty members as well as recruitment of new adjunct instructors enabled NMC to move forward with a majority of the classes that were originally scheduled for the fall 2013 semester.

"Of course, a small number of classes had to be cancelled—as in previous semesters—because they did not meet the minimum number of enrolled students. However, the cancellation of a small number of classes due to limited enrollment is a normal

See **CLASSES** on Next Page

San Nicolas attends attorneys general summit

Attorney General Joey P. San Nicolas is joining other state attorneys general in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to attend Attorney General Van Hollen's Presidential Initiative Summit on Sept. 16-18. This year's theme is "America's Promise: Keeping Our Kids Safe."

The Presidential Initiative Summit, hosted by The National Association of Attorneys General, is the main event of Attorney General Van Hollen's yearlong focus. The agenda will cover significant issues including successful strategies for combating school violence, preventing drug abuse and stopping child sex trafficking.

Several ranking speakers will

include Victor Vieth, executive director, National Child Protection Training Center; John Ryan, chief executive officer, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; and Dan Duncan, associate executive director, National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse.

According to San Nicolas, "Human trafficking can go unheard of but the reality is it is happening in our community."

San Nicolas is looking forward to the summit in hopes of learning vital and valuable information regarding the matter, and in return, convey the information back to the CNMI.

San Nicolas attended a similar conference in Koror, Palau

this past July. The conference focused on human trafficking and trial advocacy training, where he served alongside guest panelists Lauri Ogunoro, director of Guma Esperanza, and U.S. Attorney Alicia Limtiaco.

"I made valuable contacts within the law enforcement and prosecutor communities in Micronesia and was assigned by the group to oversee the creation of a regional prosecutors' organization so that our offices may share valuable information and conduct training to aid in the prosecution of human trafficking in the Pacific," added San Nicolas. (*Office of the Governor*)

OAG conducts training for law enforcement

The Office of the Attorney General's Criminal Division is currently hosting a law enforcement training in the CNMI. The first session was held on Aug. 27, while the second and third sessions are scheduled for Friday, Sept. 27, and Friday, Oct. 11, at the Multi-Purpose Center from 8am to 12pm. The OAG has lined up its Criminal Division assistant attorneys general to conduct the presentations.

This training series is the first of its kind conducted by the OAG with the goal of strengthening and enhancing first responders and law enforcement

personnel, and for investigators to reinforce their skills and perform their job more effectively.

The first round of topics include arrest warrants, preliminary hearings, victim interviews, collecting and preserving evidence, confident testimony, hearsay objections, and cross-examination.

"Once we've completed the first round of topics we'll move to advanced topics," said Chief Prosecutor Shelli Neal. "The second series of topics include report writing/appropriate language, interrogation, constitutional rights of defendants, and search and

eavesdropping warrants.

The first set of training was well attended with participants from the Department of Public Safety, Division of Fish & Wildlife, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, Retirement Enforcement and other law enforcement agencies. The OAG plans to hold another round of training in November, focusing on more advanced topics.

"The officers expressed an interest in continuing this type of training and we're happy to accommodate them as our trial/court schedules permit," added Neal. (*OAG*)

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And to all the businesses, groups, organizations, elected officials and individuals who bought tickets to the Green Gala — Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank you for your support!

Wiseman rules riot statute unconstitutional

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has ruled that the riot law in the CNMI is unconstitutional because it is vague on its face.

Wiseman determined that 6 CMC Section 3102 is so vague and standardless that it leaves the public uncertain as to what conduct it prohibits, thereby violating the due process clause.

The judge issued the ruling in granting Ramon S. Kaipat's motion to dismiss the riot charge filed against him, arguing that the violation he is charged with is void for facial vagueness.

Wiseman said the charge is unconstitutional as it violates Kaipat's right to due process of law under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution and Article I, Section 5 of the Commonwealth Constitution.

Attorney Jennifer Dockter represented Kaipat in the case. Attorney Michael Ernest assisted Dockter in filing the motion. Assistant attorney general Margo Brown represented the government.

The Office of the Attorney General charged the 35-year-old Kaipat with riot, alleging that on June 1, 2013, he assembled with seven others by force, violence, loud noise, shouting or threats that placed others in fear or danger. The OAG filed the same charges against seven other persons.

A man was seriously injured during the riot that reportedly began with a verbal tussle between two men that escalated into beating and rock throwing.

Public Law 3-71, codified at 6 CMC Section 3102, prohibits rioting, defining it as: "assembling with two or more persons and together with the latter, by force, violence, loud noise, shouting or

threats, placing others in fear or danger."

Dockter asserted that Section 3102 broadly prohibits conduct that includes the constitutionally protected rights of free speech and assembly guaranteed by the First Amendment.

Dockter said Section 3102 includes shouting and threats as part of the conduct it prohibits, thereby prohibiting speech.

Dockter said it also prohibits assembling with others when by force, violence, loud noise, shouting, or threats, such conduct causes fear or endangers others.

In his ruling, Wiseman said it is difficult to imagine how any Commonwealth citizen who happened to be assembled in the same place with other persons

would know how much noise constitutes being "loud."

"Loud noise could be anything from speaking in a loud tone, to singing out loud, slamming one's door, to having a loud cell phone ring tone," Wiseman said.

Further, the judge noted, it is difficult to imagine how a citizen would know how loud a noise could be before it causes fear or endangers others.

"A citizen loudly talking on a cell phone at a barbecue while with a group of friends might awaken a baby sleeping nearby in a stroller and frighten [him or her]," Wiseman said.

Section 3102, the judge said, fails to provide the kind of notice that would enable an ordinary person to understand what

conduct is prohibited.

Further, Wiseman said, such a law might authorize and even encourage arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement.

"One might be guilty of violating Section 3102 by playing loud music at 3am where one playing loud music at 3pm would not face the same en-

forcement," he said.

Wiseman said a review of the survey of riot statutes in other American jurisdictions makes it apparent that Section 3102 is completely dissimilar to the crime of riot in a vast majority of American jurisdictions and thus falls short of passing constitutional muster.

King seek \$2K to pay for Crisostomo's private eye

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Attorney Janet H. King has asked the Superior Court to provide her \$2,000 more to continue to employ private investigator Anthony Gomez to help her prepare for her defense of Joseph A. Crisostomo, who is facing charges in the kidnapping and murder of bartender Emerita Romero.

Saipan Tribune learned that Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho granted last week King's ex parte motion for additional funds for a private investigator. The judge, however, stressed that Gomez's work will be subject for review.

On April 11, 2013, Camacho approved King's request to hire Gomez at the rate of \$35 per hour for a maximum fee of \$2,000 in order to assist King in locating and interviewing potential witnesses, in preparation for Crisostomo's defense.

King said that Gomez states that he has put in over 57 hours of his investigative time into this case so far and has exceeded his cap of \$2,000.

King said that at the time of Gomez's appointment, the government provided over 600 pages of discovery material, not including photographs, audio and video files. Since then, King said, the government has provided over 600 pages of ad-

ditional discovery material, as well as additional photographs, audio and video files.

King stated that all criminally accused are entitled to the effective assistance of counsel, which includes effective investigation.

In his affidavit attached to the motion, Gomez was actually requesting for additional \$4,000 to "complete the investigation before the trial date." Gomez said it is his belief that the initial amount of \$2,000 approved by the court for the defense investigator is insufficient.

Recently, King requested the court to appoint six experts for Crisostomo's defense and authorize \$11,900 funding for such experts. Camacho granted the motion.

The jury trial of 40-year-old Crisostomo will be on April 7, 2014.

FBI agents found the body of Romero at the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque on Feb. 7, 2012, two days after she was last seen boarding a car near her house in Garapan.

Crisostomo is facing charges of first-degree murder, kidnapping, and five other charges. If convicted of all charges, he may be sentenced to life or up to 55 years in prison.

Crisostomo is currently in serving a 10-year prison term for another conviction. His projected release is Sept. 13, 2022.

that class to ensure that the college is able to meet costs and expenses (instructor salary, instructional materials, utilities, etc.) associated with operating that class.

The college's full-time student enrollment has increased by about 50 percent in the past five years.

CLASSES

From Page 2

part of any semester at the college," explained Merfalen.

Saipan Tribune learned that in order for classes to proceed, there needs to be a minimum number of students enrolled in



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Fund tells Inos of ‘fatal’ \$80M error in budget bill

Acting NMI Retirement Fund administrator Lillian M. Pangelinan brought to Gov. Eloy S. Inos’ attention a “fatal” error to the tune of over \$80 million in the fiscal year 2014 budget bill that is now before him for action. If this error is not corrected, the Fund will end up paying only a single full pension in fiscal year 2014, and that will only be on Oct. 15, 2013.

As of last night, it’s not known how the administration

and the Legislature would address the error that the Fund pointed out in a Sept. 12 letter.

Pangelinan said the confusion in the Legislature may have been caused by the Office of Management and Budget submitting the governor’s budget proposal, which mistakenly provided that over \$4.030 million was needed for the Fund’s operations budget.

That figure, however, is actually the Fund’s total revenue

estimates, and the Fund’s actual total operations amount should be more than \$84.765 million. This is a difference of more than \$80 million.

“I respectfully request that you correct this significant—and fatal—error, or else the CNMI’s retiree population will be subjected to only one pension payment for [fiscal year] 2014,” Pangelinan told Inos.

The House and Senate passed a compromise version of the

\$123.4 million budget last week. The budget bill is now with the governor.

The Fund’s acting administrator said she brought this over-\$80 million discrepancy to OMB’s attention on July 25.

A day later, OMB advised Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) and House Ways and Means Committee chair Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), and requested the correct amount of \$84,765,485 be reflected under the Fund’s operations account.

ning.”

He said this is a “sneaky” move and done “not in good faith.”

“It makes you wonder whose interest are they really protecting?” he added.

Meeting with governor

The governor met with Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan) yesterday afternoon, right around the time the House was having a session.

The press secretary said they discussed ongoing concerns about the legal fees being sought by Johnson’s attorneys.

“They also discussed again the repercussions of members opting out, that it does not provide the same guarantee the settlement agreement provides; and that litigation will resume, which in turn means, further draining of resources that could’ve been otherwise used to infuse into the Fund,” Demapan said.

Demapan said the governor also asked the Senate to hold off “at this time” prefiling the resolution for those opting out of the settlement deal, “as the government legal team is currently assessing all legal options.”

to amend Article 12, Section 4, “in order to legally provide that a person who has at least some degree of Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian blood and who is a citizen or national of the United States shall be deemed a bona fide person of Northern Marianas descent for all purposes under Article 12, upon providing evidence to the Superior Court.”

The court has to certify that a person is an NMD.

For purposes of determining an NMD under the initiative, a person shall be considered a full-blooded Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian if that person was born or domiciled in the Northern Mariana Islands by 1950 and was a citizen of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands before termination of the Trusteeship with the Commonwealth. Also considered NMDs are adopted children of NMDs, if adopted while under the age of 18 years.

The speaker reminded House members yesterday that the term NMD is a “political” definition rather than one that is based on “ethnicity” or “race.”

INOS

From Page 1

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said adoption of the resolution sends a “strong message” that the plaintiff lawyers’ proposed fees are “unreasonable.”

Rep. Mario Taitano (Ind-Saipan), for his part, said Johnson’s lawyer fees “should not be more than \$10 million.”

“And some of the plaintiff’s lawyers need to be investigated. One of them got away with murder when he ran over a Filipino years ago and one was disbarred,” Taitano said.

House Joint Resolution 18-9, House Draft 1, signed by all the 20 House members, passed the House by a 19-0 vote with one absence.

Taitano offered a floor amendment to change the proposed attorneys’ fees from \$37 million to \$40.7 million as of Friday. The House adopted Taitano’s floor amendment.

The joint resolution now heads to the Senate.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the governor was already poised to object to the attorneys’ fees.

“The resolution is a good in-

dication that there is a unified stance on this matter,” he said.

Senate draft resolution

Senators, meanwhile, are poised to prefile today a resolution to support retirees who opt out of the settlement agreement and formally tender their “request for exclusion” pursuant to section 21.0 of the proposed settlement deal.

One of the senators supporting the resolution says as of yesterday, “at least four are opting out of the settlement agreement and many more are considering to follow.”

The draft three-page Senate resolution, a copy of which was obtained by *Saipan Tribune* last night, says that the Senate “still believes that the NMI Constitution protects those who opt out of the settlement agreement.”

It says the NMI Constitution was never amended and laws are still in place and that those who opt out can get relief directly from the Department of Finance or the CNMI general fund “because the provisions relating to accrued benefits are still guaranteed by the CNMI Constitution.”

The Senate may tackle this resolution in its session set for Wednesday.

Those who were absent or not in the gallery during voting were Reps. Tony Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Teresita Santos (R-Rota), Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan), and minority leader George Camacho (R-Saipan).

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), prior to the voting, said the initiative needed at least 12 votes to pass.

When the votes came in, 13 of the 16 members present voted “yes,” surpassing the required 12 votes to pass.

Discussions on the initiative during the House session were mainly on the Senate amendment excluding adopted children without any NMD blood from land ownership.

The Senate amendment was authored by Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan), who was in the House gallery during initiative discussion and voting. Reyes said this is for “fairness” sake.

Dela Cruz, during discussions on the initiative, asked whether the CNMI is being “racist” to exclude non-NMD adopted children from land ownership.

The vice speaker said that, while there have been sham mar-

riages and sham adoption, there are also genuine relationships, including having 100 percent NMD parents adopting a child with no NMD blood and want to pass on to their adopted child their land.

“I think by approving this initiative, we are being racist,” Dela Cruz told his colleagues.

The speaker asked House legal counsel John Cool whether legislative passage and then voters’ ratification of the initiative will have a “retroactive effect.”

Cool, in response, said the initiative, once ratified, will be “prospective.”

This means only non-NMD children who are adopted “after” the initiative is ratified by voters will be ineligible to own land in the CNMI.

Any non-NMD child adopted prior to the voters’ ratification of the initiative will still get to own land.

David Sablan of the Citizens for Change of Article 12 earlier told *Saipan Tribune* it is high time to revisit this constitutional provision.

The ultimate decision rests with voters.

HLI 18-1, HD1, SD1 proposes

Pangelinan said because this error impacts thousands of lives, she also requested the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair about a correction to the budget bill.

A Senate version of the budget bill contained the correct amount.

However, the version ultimately passed both by the Senate and House reflects the incorrect amount, Pangelinan said.

The Fund pays out some \$6 million in monthly pension benefits, or about \$3 million every 15 days.

“If the budget bill passes in its current form, the Fund will only be able to pay a full pension on Oct. 15, 2013. Thereafter, no pension payments can be made for the rest of [fiscal year] 2014,” Pangelinan told Inos. *(Haidee V. Eugenio)*

BOAT

From Page 1

Guard Sector Guam stated yesterday that the Coast Guard and agencies from the CNMI continue to monitor *Il Sin Ho*.

White said that, on Sunday, the vessel owner continued working with an oil spill response organization to establish a contract for removing an estimated 6,200 gallons of oily water from the boat.

The owner also entered into discussions with a salvage company to develop a vessel recovery plan.

DEADLINE

From Page 1

firmed yesterday that the board will meet tomorrow, Sept. 18, with Freedom Air as its sole agenda.

When asked whether or not the board will reconsider its decision on Freedom Air, Lifofoi said he has no idea, adding that the special meeting was called at the request of board members.

The Rota Legislative Delegation earlier appealed to the CPA board to reconsider its termination notice against Freedom Air. Signed by delegation chair Rep. Teresita Santos, the Rota lawmakers sought for an extension on the deadline for the local carrier.

“The leaders of Rota stand united in requesting the board’s consideration of Freedom Air’s termination notice and respectfully recommend additional time be given to Freedom Air to settle its outstanding account and arrears,” according to the delegation in its August letter to CPA.

They said that despite the CNMI’s ailing economy and delayed government payments, Freedom Air continues to assist the people of Rota who desperately need interisland medical referral transportation and provides cargo shipments of medical specimens and supplies that is vital for the health and welfare of its people.

“Freedom Air remains compassionate and understanding to our local culture as they continue to donate and provide charitable services to worthy causes and to various organizations and schools,” according to the delegation.

A check with some CPA board members yesterday showed that they will be attending Wednesday meeting.

White said yesterday that the unified command that was established continue to assess the situation as negotiations were ongoing between the owner and contractors for oily water recovery and vessel salvage.

The unified command includes the boat owner, Department of Public Safety, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Division of Environmental Quality, Coastal Resources Management, Department of Lands and Natural Resources-Division of Fish and Wildlife, Tinian Mayor’s Office, and Coast Guard. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Saipan Tribune learned that the Rota lawmakers, along with Freedom Air executives, have reiterated their appeal to the board.

When asked if some of these lawmakers have personally approached them, board members interviewed yesterday all responded in the negative.

Prior to the CPA board’s decision in August, the agency gave Freedom Air several chances to rectify its long overdue accounts. In fact, several notices of default, termination and promissory notes were issued to the company since 2011.

CPA, in its “final” notice, indicated that failure to vacate its premises may lead to legal action against the company.

If Freedom Air wishes to continue operations on CPA premises in the future, CPA expects Freedom Air “to fully satisfy its outstanding obligations today.”

Calls made by *Saipan Tribune* to Freedom Air general manager Dennis Cruz were not replied to as of press time yesterday. Company owner Joaquin Flores also has yet to issue a statement.

Saipan Tribune learned that Freedom Air has three lease agreements with CPA, including one for the Rota airport premises, one for the former PIA hangar, and another for the general area at CPA. The company is delinquent on these lease agreements by \$15,378 and \$3,024 respectively.

Freedom Air is delinquent for aviation charges amounting to \$554,268 as of Aug. 14.

Passenger facility charges collected by the airline from passengers have also been wrongfully withheld and not remitted to CPA: Saipan (\$273,500); Rota (\$148,392); and Tinian (\$202,275).

Freedom Air has been servicing the islands for more than 30 years.

ARTICLE 12

From Page 1

This came about after the House of Representatives passed last night a Senate-amended Article 12 initiative that Rep. Felicidad Ogunoro (R-Saipan) authored.

Currently, only those with at least 25 percent NMD blood can own land in the CNMI under the NMI Constitution’s Article 12.

House Legislative Initiative 18-1, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 passed the House by a vote of 13-3 with four absences at 6:04pm.

It now heads to the Commonwealth Election Commission for placement on the ballot, in time for the 2014 elections.

“It costs \$10,000 to \$15,000 to place any initiative on the ballot,” Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* last night.

The three “no” votes were from vice speaker Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), and Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan).

Mt. Carmel School burglarized twice in a 9-day period

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Mt. Carmel High School building in Chalan Kanoa was burglarized twice in a nine-day period and several items were stolen from the students' lockers.

Acting Mt. Carmel president Kathleen Keiko Yamagata con-

firmed yesterday with *Saipan Tribune* the two burglary incidents—the last time only on Sunday and the first time was during the weekend of Sept. 7 to 8.

"It's disappointing that individuals behave in this way," said Yamagata, who has been the acting school president since Wednesday.

The Department of Public Safety has yet to release information to the media about the two cases.

Yamagata sent out yesterday a letter to inform the parents and guardians of their students about the two cases.

In the first incident, the suspect or suspects entered the high

school building and stole several items from the students' lockers. At the junior high school building, the burglar or burglars smashed one classroom glass door and stole several items from that room.

Yamagata said school personnel discovered the vandalism on a Monday, Sept. 9, and immediately reported it to police.

The school submitted to DPS its inventory of all stolen items and advised the students and teachers not to leave any valuables in their lockers or classroom.

That same day, the school

contracted the services of a security company to provide a daily 12-hour security personnel at school from 6pm to 6am.

Yamagata said that unfortunately, the burglar or burglars struck again on Sunday, Sept. 15, during the daylight hours of 6am to 6pm.

The suspect or suspects broke into the high school building, stole several items from the students' lockers, and smashed three glass windows to enter three classrooms.

Yamagata said no other classrooms or offices in the junior high or elementary building

were vandalized.

"The teachers and students are conducting an inventory, and all items reported missing will be forwarded to DPS," she said.

Yamagata told *Saipan Tribune* that these burglaries are very costly in many ways as aside from items being stolen, students' time were used up for the inventory, and the investigation process and follow-up investigation also take time.

Yamagata said they're looking at other measures right now to address the problem.

"We have to make a decision on what else we need to put in place to safeguard our properties, facilities, and investments," she said.

PIC Palooza raises \$5K for NMI ARC

The Pacific Islands Club Saipan raised \$5,000 for the American Red Cross NMI Chapter during its "PIC Palooza—The Game Show" held last Sept. 7 at Charley's Cabaret.

PIC Saipan executive assistant Vicky Benavente said the San Antonio resort is very thrilled for raising that amount for a worthy cause.

"The Palooza Party was a lot of fun and games, really fun games," said Benavente. "The support from the community with the ticket sales for the NMI Red

Cross was absolutely remarkable and for this we are all grateful."

ARC executive director John Hirsh said he is very grateful for the \$5,000 raised by PIC Saipan on behalf of their organization.

"I'm really humbled by the fact that PIC Saipan chose the American Red Cross as this year's beneficiary of their annual Palooza event. So many people attended the event and it just goes to show that people are still willing to give money for a good cause."

Currently, he said the local

chapter of the American Red Cross is setting funds for its preparedness and response campaigns.

The American Red Cross NMI Chapter has about 170 members on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. It also has member groups at Mt. Carmel School, Marianas High School, Kagman High School, and Saipan Southern High School.

Over 200 people took part in the "PIC Palooza—The Game Show" last Sept. 7. (*Saipan Tribune*)

Grants promote initiatives to address poverty

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development, established by the Catholic bishops of the United States, is committed to supporting organizations led by low-income individuals as they work to break the cycle of poverty and improve their communities.

CCHD's grant programs include community development grants that support nonprofit organizations that nurture the

participation of people living in poverty to change structures and policies that affect their lives. At least 50 percent of those benefiting from the applying organization's efforts must be people experiencing poverty.

Economic development grants support economic development institutions that have structures in place that encourage people living in poverty to

hold leadership roles in, and have ownership of, the organization. Grants range between \$25,000 and \$75,000.

Pre-applications for both programs may be submitted between Sept. 1 and Nov. 1, 2013. (Organizations are encouraged to submit their pre-application prior to the Nov. 1 deadline.) Visit the CCHD website for more information. (*CCHD*)

Covenant
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Covenant Party of the Northern Mariana Islands is inviting all party members and interested individuals for a general membership meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2013, at the Garapan Central Park. The meeting will commence at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited.

Thank You

Si Gregorio M. Camacho, Chairman

Paid for by the Covenant Party Treasurer Emma Villagomez.

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PSS OPENS FIRST INT'L PARTNERSHIP WITH JAPAN UNIVERSITIES

56 foreign student teachers take charge of NMI classrooms



Visiting students from universities in Japan gather for a group photo with their teacher-counterparts from Dandan Elementary School during a welcome ceremony Sunday evening at Marianas High School.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Public School System formally opened Sunday evening its first international partnership with prominent universities in Japan whose first delegation of 56 student teachers and 12 support staff were warmly welcomed by local education officials and Gov. Eloy S. Inos during a ceremony at Marianas High School.

According to Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, the delegation is from a consortium of 10 universities in Japan led by Ehime University. The visiting student teachers will be on a weeklong cultural and leadership program with their counterparts in CNMI elementary public schools.

Saipan Tribune learned that the delegates are selected col-

lege students from Ehime University, Kyoto Bunkyo University, Kyushu International University, Matsuyama University, Kagawa University, Kyoto University of Foreign Language, Hiroshima University of Economics, Kyoto Koka University, Oremon University, and Yamaguchi University.

Seiji Kumagai, a 19-year-old sophomore at Ehime University majoring in elementary education, said the weeklong excursion to the Commonwealth is a great opportunity for upcoming teachers like them to get a first-hand experience from fellow educators in the CNMI.

When asked about the specific techniques and strategies he wants to learn from his CNMI counterparts, Kumagai says he wants to improve his speaking skills and develop his confidence in order to become an ef-

fective educator.

Yesterday, the delegates—who were split into groups—started their five-day instructional mission inside CNMI public school classrooms with their local counterparts.

Kumagai told Saipan Tribune he would like to teach CNMI students some basic Japanese words that these students will find useful. Although the trip is short, Kumagai also plans to work in a physical fitness program, mathematics, and art classes. “I hope they will learn from me, as I learn from them,” he told Saipan Tribune through an interpreter.

Like Kumagai, 22-year-old Ichiro Gotoh is excited about their first trip to Saipan. Gotoh is a junior management student at Ehime University and is among the support staffers for this year’s delegation.

Gotoh described the five-



William S. Reyes Elementary principal Naomi Nishimura and her teachers welcome student teachers from Japan who will be at their school beginning yesterday for their weeklong culture and leadership trip in public schools.

MONETH G. DEPOSA



One of the event's coordinators gives the delegates a brief orientation Sunday at the Marianas High School cafeteria.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

day instructional mission to the CNMI as a big challenge, but he is confident that the visiting group is ready to take that step with flying colors.

wealth’s tourism industry as the islands remain a top destination for Japanese tourists. “In your brief stay on our islands, I am sure you will all enjoy the experience. We welcome you!” said the governor.

According to Sablan, this is the first time for PSS to open international links with a consortium of Japanese universities and she looks forward to a continued collaboration with the group. She said it took almost a year of planning to realize this partnership.

This early, Sablan was informed that the consortium is ready to bring its second delegates to the CNMI in February.

“This is an excellent opportunity for our students and teachers to also learn from other uni-

versities. They will be here for five days and will teach in our classrooms alongside our classroom teachers. So I am excited and happy,” said Sablan.

Besides their instructional mission inside classrooms, the group will also participate in a home-stay program that will expose them to traditional family life in the Marianas.

Besides Inos and Sablan, also present Sunday to welcome the delegates were Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero and board member Janice Tenorio.

Japan Consul Koji Hino and his wife, Noriko Hino, were also in attendance to welcome the visitors to the islands.

The group is expected to depart on Saturday.

A strong relationship

In his welcome remarks on Sunday evening, Inos said this new partnership between CNMI schools and Japanese universities demonstrates the “strong friendship” between the two countries.

He encouraged the visiting student teachers from Japan to consider completing their college degree at the Northern Marianas College if they want to graduate in an American accredited institution.

Inos also lauded Japan’s great contribution to the Common-



State Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero, center, is flanked by Japan Consul Koji Hino and wife Noriko Hino and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan and board member Janice Tenorio as they wait for the ceremony to begin on Sunday night.

MONETH G. DEPOSA



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-4500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticm.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor, Captain George F. Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (August 30, 2013)

II. SPECIAL AGENDA ITEM(S)

1. Freedom Air

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman, Board of Directors

September 13, 2013

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
P.O. Box 520059
Tinian MP 96952

Tel: (670) 433-2200 • Fax: (670) 433-1819

Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 9 a.m. at the Mayor's Conference Room, 1st floor, in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION²

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review and Approval of Fall 2013 Scholarship Application
2. Approval of Fall 2013 Award Disbursement
3. Discussion and recommendation on Board vacancy

V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. Chairman
2. Vice Chairman
3. Secretary/Treasurer

VI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER

VII. ADJOURNMENT

/s/ LYDIA F. BARGNAS¹
Chairwoman

¹ We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, The Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

³ Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule.

Scammers taking advantage of health care reform confusion

Since the Affordable Care Act was signed into law in March 2010, unscrupulous scammers have been creating ways to take advantage of consumers' uncertainty surrounding the law. Posing as insurance agents or representatives of the federal government, these scam artists

try to sell fraudulent policies or obtain sensitive information like Social Security and bank account numbers. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners and state insurance regulators are warning consumers about common red flags and providing tips on how to avoid

being the victim of a scam.

Health insurance marketplaces

One of the largest components of the ACA is the creation of new health insurance marketplaces, or exchanges. These online portals ask consumers to

enter information about themselves and select the level of coverage they desire to receive a list of plans they can purchase. Each state had the option of running its own exchange, partnering with the federal government or having the federal government run its exchange entirely.

Be aware that the CNMI does NOT have an exchange or insurance marketplace at all. If someone tries to contact you regarding a "CNMI exchange" please report this to the CNMI CAP (Consumer Assistance Program) office.

Open enrollment in the new marketplaces begins Oct. 1 in the U.S. mainland. However, bogus websites that purport to be part of the exchanges have been appearing online for more than a year. Do not enter any personal or financial information into a website that says you can purchase a policy from an exchange in the U.S.

New 'Obamacare' insurance or Medicare cards

Another common ploy involves unsolicited calls from scammers who claim to have your new "Obamacare" insurance card—they just need to get some information before they can send it to you. The caller then asks for credit card numbers, bank account information, or your Social Security number. A vari-

ation of this trick specifically targets seniors on Medicare; the caller claims that in order for them to get their new Medicare card and continue receiving their benefits, they must verify their bank account and routing numbers. Some callers ask for their Medicare numbers, which are identical to Social Security numbers.

You are not required to obtain a new insurance or Medicare card under the ACA. Also, anyone who is a legitimate representative of the federal government will already have your personal and financial information and should not ask you to provide it.

Don't be misled

Here are some other important "red flags" to watch out for:

■ **The salesperson says the premium offer is only good for a limited time.** Enrollment in the exchanges will be open from Oct. 1 to March 31, and rates for plans in the exchanges will have been approved for the entire enrollment period. Be skeptical of someone who is trying to pressure you into buying a policy because the rate is only good for a short time. Remember: if the offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

■ **The salesperson says you could go to jail for not having health insurance.** Starting in 2014, all Americans will be required to have health insurance;

however, the CNMI is exempt from this provision. CNMI residents face no penalty for being uninsured.

■ **You receive an unsolicited phone call or email from someone trying to sell insurance.** The federal government and state insurance departments will not be contacting individual consumers to sell them insurance. Do not give any sensitive information to anyone who claims to be with the federal government, your state insurance department or a navigator for your state's exchange.

Protect yourself

The best way to protect yourself from insurance fraud is to research the agent and company you're considering. Always STOP before writing a check, signing a contract or giving out personal information. CALL the CNMI CAP office (785-8890) and confirm that the agent and company are licensed to write insurance in your state.

More information

The above information is from an alert issued by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. For more information on the NAIC's activity on healthcare reform, visit the Healthcare Reform Special Section. You can find more information on the ACA on the HHS website. (*Commerce*)

Trial begins of alleged taxi driver, pal who allegedly beat up teen

A jury trial began yesterday in the Superior Court of an alleged illegal taxi driver and his male friend, who are facing charges of beating up and threatened to kill a teen passenger in Tanapag last year.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho completed the selection of seven jurors, including an alternate, who will decide the fate of Ji Jing Borja and Han Tai Lin.

The prosecution's first witness yesterday was the 17-year-old victim, who narrated to the court how Lin allegedly threatened to kill him with an 18-inch screwdriver more than 30 times and punched him on the face twice.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, counsel for Lin, is expected to continue cross-examining the teenager today, Tuesday, at 8:30am.

Meyer compared the sizes of his client, Lin, and the victim for the jurors. He asked Lin, who is

skinny, to stand up and for the teenager to get down from the witness stand. Lin appeared a bit taller, but the teenager is bigger in built.

Assistant attorneys general Nicole Driscoll and Brian Flaherty are representing the government in the case. Attorney Colin Thompson is counsel for Borja.

Police arrested Borja and Lin in October 2012 on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, kidnapping, assault, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Police officers were dispatched to a residence in Tanapag on Oct. 7, 2012, for a disturbance report.

The alleged victim, who was then 16 at the time, claimed that he called an illegal taxi to pick him up at Chacha Oceanview Junior High School in Kagman on his way to his girlfriend's house in Tanapag.

Before reaching a store on Capital Hill, the driver asked for payment for the ride.

The juvenile explained he was going to get the money from his girlfriend. The driver, who was later identified as Lin, allegedly got mad and pulled a screwdriver and threatened to kill the teenager.

Instead of going to Tanapag, the taxi brought the juvenile to Middle Road and then to Garapan where the driver picked up the other suspect, Borja.

The driver threatened to throw the juvenile off Banzai Cliff and repeatedly punched him in the face.

The teenager managed to jump out of the taxi when the taxi slowed down because of a truck in front of them along Chalan Pale Arnold Highway in Tanapag. The teenager then ran to his girlfriend's house where he sought police's help.

A police officer later spotted the taxi, leading to the arrest of the two suspects. The defendants denied the charges. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



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Other positions are also available.

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September 18, 2013
10am to 4pm
Dynasty Court (Chinese Restaurant)
Tinian Dynasty Hotel Lobby

SAIPAN
September 19, 2013
10am to 5pm
Chamolinian Room
Hyatt Regency - Saipan



Free health screening on Sept. 21

The U.S. Pinoy for Good Governance Marianas Chapter and Marianas Eye Institute will hold a free three-hour health screening on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 8am to 11am at the Filcom Pavilion near the Sabalu Market in Susupe.

The health screening is in observance of the 12th anniversary of the Sept. 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance and an effort to increase awareness on maintaining good health and to promote education on disease prevention.

Registration starts from 7:30am and will be continuing until 10am. People who would like to avail of the blood sugar tests are advised to refrain from eating and drinking liquids 12 hours prior to the actual testing.

This is the third free health screening in the last nine months that USP4GG will be hosting. It had a health screening on Dec. 22, 2012, as a Christmas gift to the CNMI

community and in Jan. 19, 2013, during the National Day of Service for the Martin Luther King Day and the inauguration of President Obama.

Screening several key vital metrics include blood pressure, blood sugar, weight, height, body mass index, and vision. There will be also free counseling to be provided by the Upper Room International Ministries headed by pastor Danny Ibanez.

"Free health screenings help members of our community take charge of their health. Providing such free services not only signifies volunteerism but is also a gesture of compassion, care and concern for other people and the community," said Dr. Celia Lamkin, chairperson of USP4GG Marianas Chapter and a volunteer of Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency that leads the annual event for the September 11th National Day of Service.

When Lamkin asked for the Marianas Eye Institute's support and help for this health screening, Marianas Eye Institute's CEO Russ Quinn said, "We are always happy to help."

In his email to Lamkin, Dr. David Khorram, co-founder and director of Marianas Eye Institute, said, "Best wishes on the success of another excellent event."

Parents are encouraged to bring their children for free vision screening.

Brochures and information on disease prevention such as hypertension, high cholesterol, diabetes, stroke, coronary heart disease, signs and symptoms of heart attack, among others, will be distributed at the health screening site for free. Fact sheets about peripheral arterial disease, asthma, high blood pressure in children, guides to a healthy heart, healthy weight, healthy sleep, living well with heart disease, lowering blood pressure and cholesterol, among

others, will also be distributed.

Organizers will also give materials for teachers such as teacher's guide on cardiovascular disease prevention, for parents and healthcare providers such as *Pocket Guide to Blood Pressure Measurement in Children* and many more, on a first-come, first-serve basis.

"I encourage more people to volunteer, be involved, donate time and efforts and provide community services not only in special events or occasions, but throughout the year as the need arises," said Lamkin.

The AmeriCorps volunteers, nursing students at the Northern Marianas College, and private individuals will be helping out at this event.

The public is invited to participate regardless of ethnicity, citizenship, religion and nationality.

The U.S. Pinoy for Good Governance is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization based in New York. *(Saipan Tribune)*

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

September 17, 2005

Fund asked to support BoS' request to end receivership

Bank of Saipan is asking the NMI Retirement Fund to support its petition to end the bank's receivership status, according to Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes. "The bank is asking whether the Fund could support for the end of receivership. What the board did was to meet with parties to personally hear from them," said Reyes. He said BoS representatives as well as bank receiver Antonio Muna presented the proposal during the Fund board's meeting Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. The Attorney General's Office, likewise, presented its position on the issue during the meeting.

Nation's POWs, MIAs honored in ceremony

Four black flags to remember and honor the country's prisoners of war and missing in action were raised at half-mast yesterday morning at American Memorial Park. Military and Veterans Affairs Office executive officer Ruth Coleman led the ceremony together with former prisoner of war Pete Callaghan and retired officers of the United States Army and Marine Corp. Coleman said the flags would be flying for 24 hours to honor the POWs and MIAs of the U.S. "The ceremony is our way to remember our comrades like the POWs and the missing ones and let them know that they are not forgotten," Coleman said. She said the ceremony which started last year was also attended by war veterans.

September 17, 2006

'Dual membership possible'

Some government employees have the option to become a member of both the existing defined benefit plan and the defined contribution plan, which takes effect about three months from now, said NMI Fund acting administrator Mark A. Aguon. In an interview Friday, Aguon said the defined contribution law, which will kick off on Jan. 1, 2007, is quite inclusive, allowing some existing members to enroll in the new plan and keep their accounts in the defined benefit program at the same time. However, it may be up to the third party administrator if such an arrangement would be made. Likewise, if that setup is pursued, the government would contribute to only one program, most likely the defined benefit plan.

'Japan trip very positive, productive'

Members of the tourism task force who flew to Japan this week described the trip as "very positive and productive." Marian Aldan-Pierce, president of DFS Galleria and vice-chair of Marianas Visitors Authority board said the delegation, which was headed by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, was able to meet and hold half-day meeting with people from the airline industry and major travel companies. "We had a meeting with the airlines and a couple of major travel wholesalers. So the meeting was really good. Everybody that we invited came in," said Aldan-Pierce in a brief interview.

September 17, 2007

AGO: Attorney's fees, costs are only independent relief sought by taxpayers

Attorney's fees and costs are the only independent relief sought by five taxpayers who want to intervene in the NMI Retirement Fund's lawsuit against the CNMI government, according to the Attorney General's Office. Deputy Attorney General Gregory Baka said if the Superior Court allows the request for intervention, it will greatly increase the costs, consumption of court time, and delay the litigation. "Balanced against the increased delays, costs and loss of judicial economy, the applicants' attempts to intervene to assert the rights of the Fund and new causes of action that resolve nothing should be denied," said Baka in the government's opposition to a motion to intervene.

Gov calls for higher pay caps for govt attorneys

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has called for higher pay caps for government attorneys and executives, while the Legislature considers two virtually identical bills raising salaries for these professionals. Fitial's budget proposal for fiscal year 2007 included a request for the Legislature to restore administrative provisions in the 2003 budget act that allowed for updated salary scales for attorneys and executive management positions within the central government. According to data prepared by the Office of Management Budget, the adjustments would affect a total of 74 positions and cost the government an additional \$556,600.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CCA board meeting on Sept. 24

The Commonwealth Cancer Association board of directors will be holding its meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2013, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. *(CCA)*

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on Thursday

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting on Thursday, Sept. 23, 2013, at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency, Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. *(CCA)*

Military training at Warning Area 517, FFM

The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Sept. 19 and 21, from 4pm to 11pm. The military will also conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Sept. 17: 11am to 5pm
- Sept. 18: 10:30am to 10pm
- Sept. 20: 8am to 2pm
- The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. *(PR)*

SHRM presents EEO review, update

The Society for Human Resource Management CNMI Chapter will have its September general membership meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013, at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret, from 10am to 12pm. Timothy Riera, direc-

tor for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Honolulu Office, will be the guest speaker.

This session will focus on the review of Equal Employment Opportunity laws and recent EEOC updates including new developments involving retaliation, sex discrimination, as well as arrest and conviction records.

This training will take about two hours and will start at 10am. The cost of attendance is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members and includes lunch. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Malou Jardinero at 234-7171 local 1518 or e-mail her at malou.jardinero@tanholdings.com. *(SHRM)*

SHEFA reminders

The deadline for supporting documents is on Monday, Sept. 30, 2013. Documents submitted after the deadline will not be entertained. If you have any questions, call us at 233-5995 or email us at contact@saipan-shefa.net. *(PR)*

FOA sets 2nd round of auditions for new production

The Friends of the Arts will be presenting Larry Shue's *The Foreigner* on Oct. 25, 26 and 27. The 1884 play is a comedy with a rustic air that has won two Obie Awards and two Outer Critics Circle Awards, including Best New American Play and Best Off-Broadway Production. Several of the seven roles still remain to be filled. Interested performers and would be performers, male or female of all ages, are invited to try out. The second round of auditions will be held at the Dolphin Theater in Marianas High School on Tuesday, Sept. 17, from 7:30pm to 9pm. *(FOA)*

MHS PTA meeting on Thursday

Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend the Marianas High School's first PTA meeting on Thursday, Sept. 19, at 6pm in the Dolphin Theater. The agenda includes an update on the new school year and election of PTA officers. *(PR)*

DEQ brigade to take part in 28th ICC

The Division of Environmental Quality's Cleanup Brigade will deviate from its regular first Saturday of the monthly beach cleanup brigade in order to join the Coastal Resource Management's celebration of the 28th Annual International Coastal Cleanup, which is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 20, and Saturday, Sept. 21, on Saipan. Rota will be participating on Sept. 20 and Tinian will be hosting theirs on Sept. 18. If you would like to volunteer, contact a CRM ICC coordinator to sign up.

■ Saipan coordinator: Nicole Schafer, 664-8312

■ Rota coordinator: Bill Pendergrass, 532-0466

■ Tinian coordinator: Edwin Hofschneider, 433-0494

For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. *(DEQ)*

Notice of NRCS public meeting

A USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service State Technical Committee Meeting will be held for the Pacific Islands Area on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013, from 9am to 11am, at the following video teleconference site: USDA NRCS West Area Office, 770 East Sunset Blvd., Suite 260, Barrigada, GU 96913. Contact the Saipan Field Office at (670) 233-3415 for more information. *(PR)*

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy 2nd Birthday to our son, Eujavinel Jethanio Pinaula Repeki! May you be blessed with many more birthdays to come. We love you! Greetings coming out from Mommy, Daddy, your brothers Jacob, Marleon and the whole family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy, happy 17th birthday, Svans! Hope Club Ice is nice. Love always, Stefano, Olga, Fantastica, and Bruno.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Public comments sought on MITT draft EIS/OEIS

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS/OEIS, to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with military readiness training and testing activities conducted within the Mariana Islands Training and Testing Study Area. The Navy requests and welcomes public comments on

the MITT Draft EIS/OEIS.

Proposed action

The Navy proposes to continue to conduct training and testing activities, which may include the use of active sonar and explosives, primarily in established operating and military warning areas of the MITT study area. The proposed action also includes pierside sonar maintenance and testing along-

side Navy piers located in Inner Apra Harbor, and land-based training activities at existing ranges and other training locations in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The MITT EIS/OEIS is the reevaluation and reauthorization of training and testing activities reviewed in the Mariana Islands

Range Complex EIS/OEIS, which the Navy completed with community input in 2010.

The proposed action would ensure the Navy accomplishes its mission to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready military forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas. This mission is achieved in part by training and testing within the MITT study area.

Visit the project website at www.MITT-EIS.com to download the Draft EIS/OEIS and submit comments online.

Availability of draft EIS/OEIS and public comment period:

The Navy is seeking public input on the proposed action and alternatives, and the accuracy and adequacy of the Draft EIS/OEIS analysis. The Draft EIS/OEIS is available for public review online at www.MITT-EIS.com and at the following locations:

■ **GUAM:** University of Guam, Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Government Documents Room, (671) 735-2315; Nieves M. Flores Memo-

rial Library, (671) 475-4753

■ **SAIPAN:** Joeten-Kiyu Public Library; (670) 235-7322

■ **TINIAN:** Tinian Public Library; (670) 433-0504

■ **ROTA:** Rota Public Library; (670) 532-9451

The Navy is accepting comments throughout the 60-day public comment period, from Sept. 13, 2013, to Nov. 12, 2013. All comments must be postmarked or received online by Nov. 12, 2013, Chamorro Standard Time, for consideration in the Final EIS/OEIS. Written comments may be submitted via the project website at www.MITT-EIS.com, in person at the public meetings or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific

Attention: MITT EIS/OEIS Project Manager

258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100

Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134

Open house public meetings

Four open house public meetings will be held to inform the public about the Navy's proposed action and alternatives under consideration, and to obtain comments on the Draft

EIS/OEIS. Each of the public meetings will include an open house information session and an opportunity to present oral comments. Military representatives will be available to discuss the proposed action and the Draft EIS/OEIS. The public meetings will be held from 5pm to 8pm at the following locations:

■ **GUAM:** Monday, Oct. 7, 2013

Location: University of Guam

Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building

Anthony Leon Guerrero Multi-Purpose Room 129

Mangilao, Guam 96923

■ **SAIPAN:** Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013

Location: Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Supe, Saipan, MP 96950

■ **TINIAN:** Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2013

Location: Tinian High School cafeteria, San Jose Village, Tinian, MP 96952

■ **ROTA:** Thursday, Oct. 10, 2013

Location: Sinapalo Elementary School cafeteria, Sinapalo I, Songsong Village, Rota, MP 96951 (PR)

CFL distribution on Tinian and Rota

The CNMI Energy Division will be giving away compact fluorescent lamps, or CFL's, under the Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant to provide individuals residing on Tinian and Rota the opportunity to receive free energy-efficient Energy Star-rated CFL's to replace inefficient light bulbs to help reduce their home's energy consumption and to encourage and promote energy conservation within the CNMI.

The EECBG staff will be distributing energy-efficient Energy Star-rated CFL's and reusable bags to each residential consumer at the fol-

lowing locations:

■ **ON TINIAN:** The event will be held at the Tinian CUC Payment Center on Sept. 24, from 8:30am to 4:30pm, and on Sept. 25, from 8:30am to 4pm, on a first-come, first-served basis and while supplies last. Two reusable bags containing 16 CFL's will be issued per household.

■ **ON ROTA:** The event will be held at the Office of the Mayor of Rota on Sept. 26, from 8:30am to 4:30pm, and on Sept. 27, from 8:30am to 4pm, on a first-come, first-served basis and while supplies last. Two reusable bags containing 16 CFL's will be

issued per household.

In order to receive CFL's and reusable bags, residential consumers must present a valid identification card with photo and a copy of their most recent CUC utility bill with their name on the billing. Businesses are not eligible to participate in the event.

For inquiries and complete information on the terms and conditions of the program, contact the Department of Public Works, Division of Energy – Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant office at 664-4487/89/90. (*Office of the Governor*)

USS Higgins mentors Guam students

By **JESSE LEON GUERRERO**
JOINT REGION MARIANAS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

AGAT, Guam—Forward-deployed sailors from the destroyer USS *Higgins* volunteered their time to talk with and mentor Guam public school students at Oceanview Middle School in Agat, Guam, on Sept. 16.

The eight sailors interacted with more than 100 students discussing topics such as Navy training, deployments, ship duties, and other related areas.

"We're helping communities. We're helping countries," said Electrician's Mate 2nd Class James Hartley. "We're helping to protect small vessels that are out there. It's not just about us. It's about everyone and keeping the ship safe,

keeping the ocean safe."

Hartley said he tries to volunteer as often as he can because he can meet new people, learn new cultures, and show the Navy is here to give their support to the local community.

"It's a great way to help out the kids and get our names out so people know we're here to help," he said. "We're not just out on a ship. We're trying to help everybody."

Schoolteacher Neil Pendon said he appreciated having the military at the school, helping him with his class for the day and added that the show of Navy participation in the community is reciprocation of how the community supports the military.

"I like how they come out and

spend time here, even though they don't have to," he said. "With a lot of the military, they show their support by going to the schools and doing these things for the students. So it's just like how we show our support for the United States."

The sailors also spent time with the students during their lunch break and took part in physical education classes, showing them some of the exercises required in their physical training.

Operations Specialist 1st Class Adam Richards shared his stories with students about serving the nation by helping to keep his ship running smoothly and explained how the ship's sailors train and study in a variety of ways.



Machinist's Mate Fireman Vance Hutchings, of USS *Higgins*, speaks to eighth-grade students about his Navy career during a community relations project at Oceanview Middle School in Agat, Guam, on Sept. 16.

U.S. NAVY/JESSE LEON GUERRERO



Operations Specialist 1st Class Adam Richards, of USS *Higgins*, speaks to students about his experiences working and living aboard a Navy ship during a community relations project at Oceanview Middle School in Agat, Guam, on Sept. 16.

U.S. NAVY/JESSE LEON GUERRERO



Electrician's Mate 2nd Class James Hartley, of USS *Higgins*, reviews science material with Oceanview Middle School teacher Neil Pendon at a community relations project for the school's eighth-grade students in Agat, Guam, on Sept. 16.

U.S. NAVY/JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
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Dictators never looked so good

By DAVID ROHDE
REUTERS

Dictators have never looked so good. Vladimir Putin is saving the United States from another Mideast military intervention. Bashar al-Assad promises to “thin the herd” of jihadists and hold Syria together. And Egypt’s new strongman, General Abdal Fattah el Sisi, says he is sorting out the Muslim Brotherhood.

With each passing month in the Middle East, it seems, authoritarianism grows more attractive.

Leaders described as “repressive” sound eminently reasonable. They promise to bring order to chaos. Putin’s op-ed article in the *New York Times* on Wednesday is the latest example.

Written with the help of an American public relations firm, the piece provoked a dizzying array of reactions.

Here’s one fact check by Max Fisher of the *Washington Post*. Here’s a take down from Human Rights Watch. And the New Yorker posted this hilarious Andy Borowitz mock Modern Love column by the swashbuckling former KGB operative.

The views Putin expresses are seductive. Some of his criticisms of American power are legitimate. American unilateralism—from Iraq to drone strikes to National Security Agency surveillance—undermines President Barack Obama’s credibility on striking Syria.

But in the end Putin’s opinion piece matches his Russia. It is appealing on the surface but hollow at its core.

Throughout, Putin lies by omission. In other spots, he lies flat-out. Here are a few doozies that would make Orwell proud.

Putin presents himself as the pacifist and Obama as the militarist. He argues that American cruise missile strikes will “result in more innocent victims,” that the U.S. increasingly relies “solely on brute force.” He makes no mention of the vast amount of weaponry Russia has shipped to Assad over the last two years.

Putin then muddies the water. He says there are “few champions of democracy in Syria,” highlights the role of jihadists in the opposition and declares that Russia has “advocated a peaceful dialogue.” No mention is made of Assad’s decision to fire on demonstrators and jail his opponents in the initial stage of the uprising. Nor does Putin say that eight of the nine mass killings recently investigated by the United Nations were committed by government forces.

The issue, though, is not a tendentious op-ed. It is the state of Putin’s Russia. While he declares himself a defender of “international law” in Syria, Putin government systematically violates international law at home - from jailing political opponents, to imprisoning independent journalists to advocating laws that legalize homophobia.

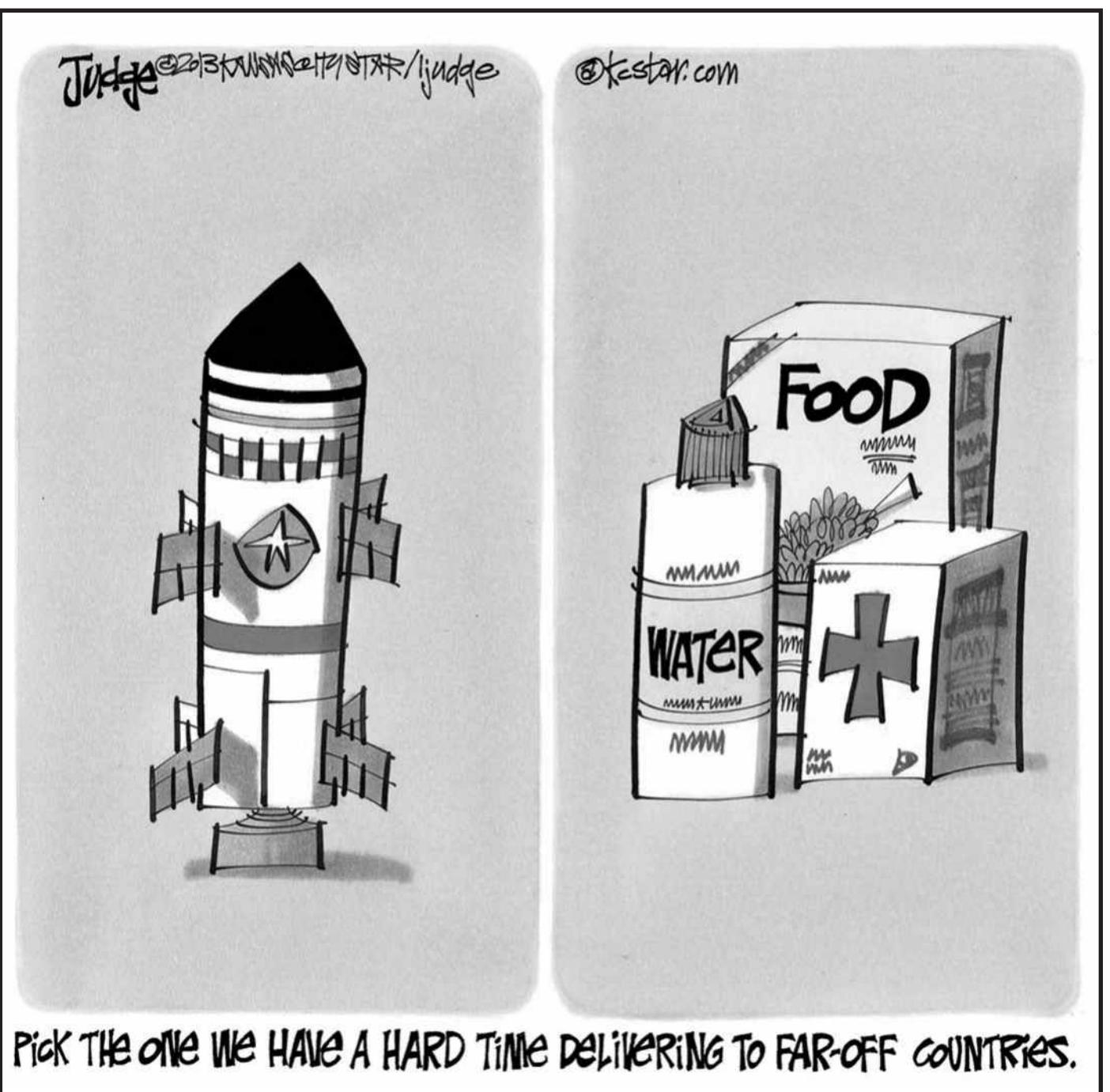
I visited Moscow in May, while covering Secretary of State John Kerry’s first trip to Russia. Western diplomats and Russian analysts painted a bleak portrait of Russia’s future. In a globalized economy where innovation, foreign investment and transparency are key to growth, Putin has suffocated all three.

Putin’s relentless centralization of economic power and intolerance of political dissent had created a one-dimensional economy based primarily on oil revenues. The random criminal and tax cases brought against Putin rivals had prompted Russian and foreign investors to flee. They have pulled \$1.2 billion from Russia-focused equity funds so far this year, Reuters reported.

In Egypt, there are clear parallels as Sisi also embraces authoritarianism. He is promising stability, playing on nationalist sentiment—and crushing all potential rivals. Ursula Lindsey reported in the *New York Times* Thursday that a “cult of Sisi” is emerging in the country that hails the general for reviving Egypt.

“Of course, this obfuscates some uncomfortable facts,” Lindsey wrote. “Having shaped the country’s economy and pol-

See DICTATORS on Next Page



Understanding the Marianas better

By VIKTOR K. DECYK
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

I discovered that Saipan and the Northern Marianas were part of the United States only two years ago, when several staff members at the physics institute in Japan where I was visiting told me that Saipan was a great place to visit. I decided then to go someday to learn about the place and its people. This July I finally had a chance. I began by visiting American Memorial Park. In the USA, I have found that rangers in national parks are very knowledgeable and the gift shops often contain interesting books. There I found the book *From Colonialism to Self-Government: The Northern Marianas Experience* by Jose S. Dela Cruz.

I found it insightful. I would like to give a brief summary of this book for the benefit of tourists and others who want a background of the islands. The book contains five sections. The first section is narrated by a young fictional boy named Manuel just starting school. He describes Saipan as it was in the 1950s not long after World War II: a population of a few thousand, the family surplus jeep, Catholic school with Spanish nuns, the grandparents’ farm with no electricity, collecting of firewood for cooking, homemade coconut wine and tobacco, and the culture of the times.

The second section contains a brief history of the islands. It starts with the discovery of the islands and its subsequent colonization by the Spanish for three centuries. The native Chamorro people adopted the Catholic religion, gradually acculturated to the Spanish customs, but were eventually removed from the Northern Marianas to Guam. The subsequent sale of the islands to Germany in 1899 resulted in the Chamorro’s resettlement. When the islands were controlled by Japan after World War I, the agricultural economy boomed and its population grew to 100,000. Finally, World War II resulted in its association with the United States.

In the third section, Manuel returns as a young man with a law degree and he describes life during the U.S. Trust Territory government. The islands were part of a larger U.N. Trusteeship that was administered by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. This was a period of benign neglect. Pressure from the U.N. and activists from Legal

Aid starting in 1972 led to increasing self-government and eventually association with the United States as the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas in 1978.

The fourth section describes the early years of the Commonwealth. Saipan now had a population of 20,000, and a special relationship with the U.S., guaranteeing certain rights not normally granted to U.S. territories. Two especially important issues during those years were local control over immigration and low minimum wage laws. The tourist economy (mainly from Asia) became important and the garment industry moved in to take advantage of a “Made in USA” label and avoid import duties and restrictions. But this economic boom was followed by a bust, and a confrontation with the U.S. Congress led to the U.S. asserting control over immigration and minimum wage.

In the last section, Manuel, now in his 60s, wonders how the islands can rebound economically and ponders the difficulties, both legal and cultural, of managing a new democracy.

The book is an easy read, written at a level suitable for high school students. In the historical sections, a few things really surprised me: that the native people were incarcerated for nearly a year after World War II was over, and that prosperity and satisfaction was high during Japanese rule. The author is a legal scholar and many legal issues are discussed throughout, but not at a technical level.

In the final section, the problems of democracy, dysfunction, cronyism, corruption, are universal, even in older democracies such as the USA: government. We would like to elect our leaders and get on with our own lives. Unfortunately, it is not so easy and in all democracies we citizens must be constantly vigilant. How to maintain respect in this process seems beyond us at the moment even on the mainland and appears to be coming from other pressures in society.

My brief visit to CNMI revealed that it is a beautiful place, with friendly people and an interesting history. This part of America is also unknown to almost all Americans. This book helped me to understand the Marianas better.

Professor Viktor K. Decyk, Ph.D., is a research physicist at the UCLA Department of Physics and Astronomy. His research specialty is in computational plasma physics.

Proteksion Man-ritirau

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Pettinente probision konstitusion ha protehe pagamienton man-ritirau. Kumeke ilegña na ti siña maribaha. Dispues, ni unu manae’ atoridat tumulaika sa’ lai konstitusion. Ni i gobietnu tai atoridat manulaika haf’ gaige gi papa’ este na probision.

Ma’gas este i lai konstitusion iya Marianas. Haf’ taimanu na konbinientamente maletke ni administrasion? Lokue’, haf’ taimanu na i lehislatura tiha lie’ este na lai konstitusion?

Kase mauleg umana’ fan dañi ya umakanta, “Haye mamaigu”. Deste ñgai’an na siña ma-upus lai sa’ pot diskonbiñiente gi mone-dan iya Marianas? Yangin man-manhula’ hamyu para in’ sistene lai i tanu’, siña in’ ta’ lun rumikonose kau magahet na in’ komple ligat-miente obligasion miyu?

Haf’ tinate-mu?

Yangin un’ hahassu ta’ lu malagu, na seguru na un’ rikonose kabales haf’ tinatemu desde edukasion yan ekspirensia. Mas presisu i asuntun fotmat na edukasion tat kumu kolehu.

I asuntun linahyan mas komplikau. Poressu, na i mañaunau gi preparasion areglun linahyan debi u kabales edukasion niha kolehu yan likidu fitme pisun kualidat offisiun niha.

Debi un’ listu gi kinemprende asuntun linahyan, libianu mañgom-

prende nuebu siha na ideu yan konseptu yan estuidiu gi mafotman areglun linahyan.

Dispues, mauleg ta atetuye haf’ gaige gi hinasson niha gi kat-kuet asuntun publiku. Desde ayudu para hinemlu’, maribahan gua-guan apas kandet yan hanom, chatfondeu na programan man-ritirau, nuebu na programa pot para u guaha adelantu gi sumen chafleg na ekonomia yan fondun famaguon eskuelan publiku.

Yangin gaige hau pa’gu ya taya’ adelantau na aksion un’ komple, kase konfotme hau na taya’ bisnesmu rumipite i taya’ bidamu desde hinalom-mu. Pa’gu ‘an nuebu hau, mauleg unna’ oppan haf’ planu-mu fuera de hagas ta huñgog siha na promesa ni ti man-makomple. O’sun i publiku che’chu’ “Do-Nothing”, lai.

Taya’ kampun dinage

I publiku esta o’sun yan fatigau ni manadan dinage ginen mansabiun hegsu’ I Deni’. Esta pa’gu ma-aliligau i yabi lau gaige ha’ gi sagaña—ignition. De dios mihi na mañan muron.

Guaha kabales na propositu para maribahan gaston mas man-presisu siha na fektus yan trastes familia? Haf’ ennau na propositu yan mañgge ayuduña gi asuntu ni pa’gu hu fafaisen?

Yangin in’ ipus pot ti in’ kemprende, kase guaha esplikasion siña innae’ i publiku haf’ na in’ letke i dichu asuntun linahyan. Ti bai’ para mamaisen kuestion estate guaha kabales ineppe ginen hamyu.

I tautau ni mañiñila’ guafen estomaguña man-ayuda ya kabales makreansa, siempre libianu ha chachalane i publiku guatu gi yanu na plaset prosperu na ekonomia ‘nai guaha mauleg na appottunidat yan man-inbette yan cho’chu’ para todus.

Masusesede este pa’gu pat komplidu atlibes pumalolopu’ i publiku.

Asuntun kinemprende

Sessu ta huñfog usun palabra tat kumu “tomtum”, “menhalom” yan “mañgomprende” ‘an ta diskribe maseha haye na prohimu piot ga’ga’ politika.

Gigon ma-introduse, esta hana’ chachaole dadalagña piot ya tai

kinemprende ni sustansian i palabra siha. Mas ha bohau dadalagña ‘an ha huñgog manadan “biba”.

Este i tinemtum taigue gi tautau soluke i lamlam espadan i Saina. Siña ta sañgan tomtum i prohimu lau kau un’ komprende haf’ sustansian ennau na palabra? Kase mas dinanche ‘an ilegta “mañgomprende” lau chagu’ yan konsepton tinemtum.

Siña ha’ lokue’ ta chansa umatbansa na “menhalom” lau esta ‘nau mas hihot yan mabendise kulan profeta. Ni unu gumugu’ot este lokue’ na bittu.

I kabesamu usa dibuenamente ‘an man-hassu hau. Gaige gi korasonmu i kinemprende. Yangin ti un’ danche este na esplikasion, pues maulegña un’ suhaye bumatbaruwe chumalegua’ i ni hagu mismu ti un’ komprende.

Kastigu para i man-isau

I kondision fondun man-ritirau esta ginacha’ sala’ ‘sino kara’. Ni tafan nobena nuebe oras sigidu, I chenot inipus machalapon gi halom i sistema.

Poresu na mauleg kase tana’ guaha kastigu para todun administrasion yan lehislatura ni humasñgon muna’ kara’ i fondun programan man-ritirau.

Todu i mañaunau umana’ famila gi kada soñgsuñg sin lasu. Todun man-ritirau yan familian niha u fañaunau man-manlatigasun yan balas kuattan kueru ni pa’gu mañañague’. ‘An taya kuattan guaka, pues umana’ fan nañgu entalu’ Agiñgan yan Puntan Diablu.

Yangin haye para u adiñgan na fotte na kastigu, hasson maisa fan i kastigon miserapble ni in’ pega gi ha’ anen tres mit na familia guine? Makat i in’ pinu’ adumididi’ ha’ anen niha? I masusede ginen gueku yan natata na guinifen miyu gi un’ fondu ni prumebeniniye tres mit tantos na familia.

■■■

Hu faisen amiguahu Magoo haf’ kumeke ilegña “saladura”. Ilegña, “Guiya ‘nau ‘nai un’ saluda si ‘duka’ dispues de ginarutasu as gayegu”. Ha esplika lokue’ haf’ “malamaña”. “Nai mañamu kulan mañagon manog”.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Our collective fear

Many of us who oppose the Fund settlement are afraid that if we opt out then we may not get anything when the settlement is due to take effect next year. However, we are told that if 10 percent opt out, then the settlement will not take force and the parties will have to renegotiate the terms. Nevertheless we are concerned that if we opt out and the 10 percent threshold is not met, then we will be left out of the settlement and perhaps get nothing.

But there is a plan that may be able to address this matter. It will take a few people who are committed and have a sense of civic responsibility.

Doers: The workforce and wages

It is a well-known fact that people always see things differently, which is why it is so hard to get everyone on the same page on a lot of issues. But seeing things is one thing and doing something to fix our democracy is totally different. It has been said that people can be put into two categories when it comes to issues as we all have different preferences. So there will always be those who will watch and write about things happening and those who will make things happen, depending on the issue or activity. Complaining about what you are seeing in our government, our economy and our society and not doing a darn thing about it doesn’t amount to much. I have yet to see an editorial or a letter to the editor make our government do anything as most readers know they often pretend that they didn’t even read it.

A recent editorial seems to think that ideas offered by certain individuals should be the preferred choice but if these ideas have been written about before and they are so great, then why haven’t they been applied, which is the true litmus test. Envisioning ideas and not working to make it happens reminds me of the old saying, “Talk is

The plan

Let us sign a petition opting out of the settlement with the stipulation that the petition will not be submitted to the court unless the 10-percent threshold is met. That number is probably around 320. One suggestion is that this Saturday, someone takes signatures for this petition at the 13 Fishermen’s Pavilion on Beach Road. This would be coordinated with a similar plan on Rota and Tinian. The signatures are counted and if the 10-percent threshold is met, then the petition is submitted to the clerk of the court.

What deferment?

Although I have heard several outstanding arguments against the settlement, here is one that has not been fully advanced and it involves the promise of deferment—that at some future date the government will increase, maybe even restore full benefits to Fund beneficiaries. But no mention of deferment

cheap because the ones who walk their talk and get things done are the ones who deserve the credit!” Well, I’m a doer, not a sideliners who only writes, watches and complain. Seeing things is OK but I would rather see someone doing things to make it happen.

The subliminal message of the business community didn’t include a declaration of only wanting professionals who are alien workers but it was clear to me even though it was subliminal. I guess it was difficult for the editorial writer to understand seeing hidden things clearly. But I’ll make it simple. One, if the business community only wants to pay professionals minimum wage plus one and only alien worker professionals are willing to perform these professional task for minimum wage, it should be clear this equals two—meaning the business community has two choices but they are catering to the alien workers, not locals!

The editorial asked, where are businesses going to get money to raise wages? FYI, we didn’t raise wages in the mid- and late-’90s when we had a lot of money, so how rich do businesses have to be

is made in the settlement. Thus there is nothing enforceable about a deferment. Any payment on a deferment will be symbolic or not happen at all. It is merely an empty promise to induce our cooperation with this settlement that effectively lets the government off the hook.

A call to action

This petition plan can work. Someone please pick up the ball and run with it. I am not in the Commonwealth and my ability to act is limited and I will do what I can but we need boots on the ground in the CNMI. I beseech my compatriots possessed with commitment, civic responsibility, or moved by a serious sense of injustice to organize something, anything, please.

William Rosenburgh

Tamuning, Guam

before the front line people get a raise? If a 50-cent raise is going to kill a business then maybe they didn’t have a good viable business to begin with. Businesses operate to make money, not raise wages and if we the people don’t force them to pay us more, guess what, it will never happen as the business community will always claim they don’t have it. That’s just the nature of that beast!

But I was very glad to see the Democratic Party speak out to do something to raise wages because we must apply Republican and Democratic principles in our democracy, which is why the power in Washington continues to shift back and forth between the two parties. There may even be a shift on the horizon in the CNMI because, had the Democratic Party been fully functioning, I know for a fact that we wouldn’t still be wrestling with this casino issue and in the mess we are in today with alien workers and minimum wage.

Ambrose Bennett

Kagman, Saipan

DICTATORS

From Page 10

itics for the last 60 years, Sisi is one of the institutions most responsible for Egypt’s corruption and decline.”

Two months ago, Sisi launched a brutal crackdown, killing 1,300 members of the Muslim Brotherhood. Signs are emerging that elements of the group have radicalized. Last week, the country’s pro-military interior minister narrowly survived a bomb attack. A full-scale insurgency may well emerge in Egypt in the months ahead.

Obama has waffled on both Egypt and Syria. He has repeatedly contradicted himself on national security. Americans must start to realize how repugnant the concept of “American exceptionalism” is to other nations. But Putin’s successful execution of one of the

most cynical exercises in statecraft in decades does not make him a visionary. Nor does it make Russian-style authoritarianism a model for the Middle East.

There is nothing altruistic or complex about Putin’s strategy in Syria.

He is defending Assad in order to preserve his key ally in the Middle East and his own rule in Russia. Putin sees Syria as the latest in a line of American interventions that has toppled rulers worldwide. Dismissing protests against himself and other autocrats as CIA plots, he probably fears he may be next.

As 100,000 people have died, Putin has used obstruction at the United Nations—not pro-active diplomacy—to elevate his position in the world. His willingness to boost his own standing by spreading false conspiracy theories and glossing over crimes committed by the Syrian government is shameful.

Difficult questions need to be asked about U.S. interests in the

Middle East. Thriving, stable democracies are our goal. But quickly achieving that ideal is not possible. In each nation, different approaches are needed.

The Arab Spring has shown that rushed transitions to democracy can devolve into chaos, where jihadists can thrive.

But we should not be fooled into thinking that authoritarianism is a long-term answer to the complex dynamics roiling the Middle East. It creates stability in the short-term—and stagnation and decay over time.






The path to democracy in the region is long, complicated and deeply unnerving. But it should remain our ultimate goal.

David Rohde is a columnist for Reuters, two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize and a former reporter for The New York Times. His latest book, Beyond War: Reimagining American Influence in a New Middle East, was published in April.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph. | Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northwest winds 15 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. | Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. | Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. |
| ▲87° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼76° |

Micronesia

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------|
| Guam and Rota | Thundershowers | ▲88 ▼78 |
| Palau | Showers | ▲85 ▼77 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲90 ▼78 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲89 ▼78 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲89 ▼76 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲89 ▼76 |
| Majuro | Showers | ▲86 ▼79 |

Around The Globe

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------|
| Auckland | Partly Cloudy | ▲63 ▼44 |
| Beijing | Thundershowers | ▲78 ▼66 |
| Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy | ▲88 ▼78 |
| Honolulu | Showers | ▲88 ▼75 |
| London | Showers | ▲55 ▼45 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲88 ▼63 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲85 ▼78 |
| Melbourne | Showers | ▲65 ▼50 |
| Miami | Thundershowers | ▲85 ▼77 |
| New York | Showers | ▲71 ▼49 |
| Osaka | Sunny | ▲84 ▼66 |
| Paris | Showers | ▲59 ▼57 |
| Pusan | Sunny | ▲83 ▼69 |
| Rome | Mostly Sunny | ▲77 ▼58 |
| Salem | Partly Cloudy | ▲74 ▼58 |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | ▲68 ▼58 |
| Seoul | Sunny | ▲84 ▼65 |
| Tokyo | Sunny | ▲83 ▼65 |
| Washington, DC | Showers | ▲73 ▼57 |

Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------|----------|
| 12:35 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.9 Feet |
| 5:58 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.9 Feet |
| 12:54 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.1 Feet |
| 7:27 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.9 Feet |

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A developing disturbance within the monsoon trough is located north of Koror near 18N with two apparent centers near 128E and 132E is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Koror and Yap between 10N and 19N from west of 130E to 139E. A tropical disturbance centered east of Saipan near 15N150E interacting with an upper low centered at 15N145E are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 160 miles of a line from 7N140E to 12N148E to 16N151E to 19N148E. A weak low-level circulation centered at 17N161E is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Kosrae between 13N and 17N from 160E to 167E. A tropical disturbance is centered northeast of Majuro at 12N173E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found north of Majuro within 50 miles of a line from 12N173E to 11N176E.

Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 6:06 AM | 6:17 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:06 AM | 6:16 PM |
| Thursday | 6:06 AM | 6:16 PM |
| Friday | 6:06 AM | 6:15 PM |
| Saturday | 6:06 AM | 6:14 PM |

Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 4:26 PM | 3:36 AM |
| Wednesday | 5:13 PM | 4:34 AM |
| Thursday | 5:58 PM | 5:31 AM |
| Friday | 6:43 PM | 6:27 AM |
| Saturday | 7:27 PM | 7:22 AM |

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- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
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 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | | | |
|--|---------|----------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA5070 | 4:35am | 5:25am | 2, 4, 6, 7 | UA 5069 | 2:45am | 3:35am | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA5062 | 4:50am | 5:40am | 1, 3, 5 | UA5071 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA5068 | 8:35am | 9:25am | Daily | UA5073 | 10:00am | 10:50am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5074 | 11:20am | 12:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 | UA5075 | 1:45pm | 2:35pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5076 | 3:10pm | 4:00pm | Daily | UA5077 | 5:35pm | 6:25pm | Daily |
| UA5078 | 6:55pm | 7:45pm | Daily | UA5079 | 8:20pm | 9:10pm | Daily |
| UA5072 | 9:45pm | 10:35pm | Daily | | | | |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) | | | |
| DL287 | 6:05am | 8:40am | Daily | UA5062 | 2:40am | 3:15am | 1, 3, 5 |
| DL297 | 4:35pm | 7:20pm | Daily | UA5038 | 10:10am | 10:45am | 6 |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) | | | | ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | UA5062 | 3:45am | 4:20am | 1, 3, 5 |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | | UA5038 | 11:15am | 11:50am | 6 |
| OZ606 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | DL298 | 10:25am | 3:05pm | Daily |
| OZ604 | 3:30pm | 6:55pm | Daily | DL286 | 8:00pm | 12:35am+1 | 5, 7 |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | | DL288 | 8:55pm | 1:30am+1 | Daily |
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN | | | |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) | | | | OZ607 | 9:05pm | 1:55am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| MU764 | 4:10am | 8:00am | 1, 5 | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) | | | | OZ603 | 8:50am | 2:20pm | Daily |
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 | OZ605 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV) | | | | OZ605 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| SYL9950 | 6:40pm | 1:30am+1 | 7 | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | | 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ606/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606/701 | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | MU763 | 7:55pm | 3:10am+1 | 4, 7 |
| UA5070/191 | 4:35am | 9:55am | 6 via GUM | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA5062/191 | 4:50am | 9:55am | 3 via GUM | 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |
| DL287/173 | 6:05am | 10:05pm | Daily via NRT | SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV) | | | |
| UA5068/PR111 | 8:35am | 4:45pm | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM | SYL9949 | 12:45pm | 5:20pm | 7 |
| UA5074/PR111 | 11:20am | 4:45pm | 1, 5, 7 via GUM | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA5076/183 | 3:10pm | 8:45pm | 2, 5 via GUM | PR110/UA5072 | 7:35am | 6:25pm | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA5076/183 | 3:10pm | 9:10pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM | DL172/288 | 7:55am | 1:30am+1 | Daily via NRT |
| OZ604/703 | 3:30pm | 10:45pm | Daily via ICN | UA190/5079 | 10:55am | 9:10pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) | | | | OZ702/605 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:20am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN | OZ702/605 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | UA184/5071 | 10:25pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA5076/147 | 3:10pm | 9:50pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM | UA184/5071 | 11:35pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| OZ604/745 | 3:30pm | 10:40pm | Daily via ICN | OZ704/603 | 11:45pm | 2:20pm+1 | Daily via ICN |
| LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air. | | | | HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.) | | | | OZ746/603 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| | | | | OZ722/605 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| | | | | OZ722/605 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| | | | | UA180/5071 | 10:45pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |
| | | | | UA180/5071 | 10:50pm | 8:05am+1 | 3, 6 GUM |

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency | Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---------------|-------|-------|-----------|---------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 115 | 13:00 | 13:10 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 7:30 | 8:00 | Daily | FRE 117 | 14:30 | 14:40 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 119 | 16:00 | 16:10 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 8:20 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 121 | 16:40 | 16:50 | Daily |
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 123 | 17:40 | 17:50 | Daily |
| FRE 300 | 17:00 | 17:30 | Daily | FRE 125 | 18:30 | 18:40 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | | | | |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily | Tinian-Saipan | | | |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | FRE 102 | 7:05 | 7:15 | Daily |
| FRE 200 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily | FRE 104 | 7:50 | 8:00 | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 106 | 8:20 | 8:30 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily | FRE 108 | 9:00 | 9:10 | Daily |
| Saipan-Tinian | | | | FRE 110 | 10:00 | 10:10 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 19:40 | 20:10 | Daily | FRE 112 | 11:05 | 11:15 | Daily |
| | | | | FRE 114 | 12:00 | 12:10 | Daily |
| FRE 101 | 6:45 | 6:55 | Daily | FRE 116 | 13:30 | 13:40 | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30 | 7:40 | Daily | FRE 118 | 14:50 | 15:00 | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00 | 8:10 | Daily | FRE 120 | 16:20 | 16:30 | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 122 | 17:00 | 17:10 | Daily |
| FRE 109 | 9:10 | 9:20 | Daily | FRE 124 | 18:05 | 18:15 | Daily |
| FRE 111 | 10:45 | 10:55 | Daily | FRE 126 | 18:50 | 19:00 | Daily |



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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Summers withdraws from consideration for Fed chief

By JULIE PACE and MARTIN CRUTSINGER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—For weeks, Lawrence Summers had been considered the leading candidate to succeed Ben Bernanke as Federal Reserve chairman.

A renowned economist, Sum-

mers built close ties to President Barack Obama when he led the president's National Economic Council in 2009 and 2010. In that role, he helped orchestrate the administration's efforts to combat the financial crisis and the Great Recession.

But on Sunday, Summers withdrew from consideration for the Fed. His withdrawal fol-

lowed growing resistance from critics, including some members of the Senate committee that would need to back his nomination.

His exit could open the door for his chief rival, Janet Yellen, the Fed's vice chair. If chosen by Obama and confirmed by the Senate, Yellen would become the first woman to lead the Fed.

In the past, Obama has mentioned only one other candidate as possibly being under consideration: Donald Kohn, a former Fed vice chair. But Kohn, 70, has been considered a long shot.

The administration also reached out to former Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner

early in the process. Geithner said he was not interested in being considered.

Obama is expected to announce a nominee for the Fed chairmanship as early as this month. Bernanke's term ends Jan. 31, 2014.

Some economists said Sunday that they think Summers' exit significantly boosts the likelihood of a Yellen nomination.

"The odds that the president will nominate Janet Yellen are now much higher," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics.

Still, Zandi added, "There is a chance that there is some dark horse candidate, possibly Tim

Geithner."

David Jones, chief economist at DMJ Advisors and the author of several books on the Fed, said he saw Yellen's selection as a virtual certainty.

"There is a strong view that making a woman Fed chair is an important step," Jones said. "There is no question that her experience qualifies her for the role."

Summers and his allies had been engaged in an unusually public contest with Yellen supporters, with each side lobbying the administration.

An openly waged succession battle is something that the Fed, which will turn 100 in December, has never before witnessed. The selection of a chairman has typically been a matter handled

privately by a president and his senior advisers.

In a statement Sunday, Obama said he had accepted Summers' decision.

"Larry was a critical member of my team as we faced down the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, and it was in no small part because of his expertise, wisdom and leadership that we wrestled the economy back to growth and made the kind of progress we are seeing today," Obama said.

Yet Summers faced strenuous opposition from some Democrats, including some on the Senate Banking Committee. Summers alluded to that opposition in a letter he sent Sunday to Obama to formally withdraw from consideration.



Summers

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

New boss is disruptive, but that might be the point

QUESTION: I am troubled by some recent developments in the company where I have worked for 20 years. Lately, I have been hearing a lot of complaints from my friends in another department. Even though I'm not directly affected, I hate to see my colleagues having such a difficult time.

The problems began after a new vice president was hired. "Dan" is not only rude to his staff, but he has also been modifying many well-established policies and procedures. No one questions these decisions because Dan is extremely intimidating. To be fair, I should also mention that he is very smart and has saved the company a lot of money.

Because I really care about this business, I would like to help resolve these issues—but I'm not sure what to do. Should I bring this to someone's attention?

ANSWER: Based on such limited evidence, it's impossible to tell whether Dan is a hero or a villain. If he was hired as a turnaround artist, his smart money-saving moves may be exactly what top management was hoping for. In that case, your unhappy colleagues might just be experiencing a normal reaction to change.

On the other hand, Dan could be the proverbial bull in the corporate china shop, creating operational chaos and alienating valued employees. But since complaining about high-level managers is risky business, you need to proceed with caution.

If you have a trustworthy human resources department, that's the logical place to take this information. Your 20-year track record will bolster your credibility, and your lack of direct involvement should help you present the situation objectively.

For example: "Employees in Dan's department have recently shared some concerns with me. Many of them feel that Dan treats people disrespectfully and is making reckless changes. Since I don't work for him, I have no first-hand knowledge of these issues, but I thought you should be aware of them."

If Dan actually is a rogue executive, your feedback would be quite valuable. But if you fear that such a report may not be well-received, then you should keep these grapevine comments to yourself.

Q: Two weeks ago, my husband sent his résumé to a company in another state. Although he is well-qualified for the position, he has not gotten any response. Should he phone the human resources department or would that be viewed as overly aggressive?

A: As a general rule, applicants can appropriately make one call to be sure their resume was received. Similarly, after an interview, they can follow up once to check on the decision process. Beyond that, additional inquiries are likely to brand them as a nuisance.

Unfortunately, time passes much more slowly for job seekers than for those who may hire them. While applicants are anxiously waiting for news, managers are typically distracted by dozens of other priorities, so your husband may not hear anything for awhile. And if he is not selected for an interview, he may never hear anything at all.

Twitter flies from obscurity to the height of fame

NEW YORK (AP)—The Pope. President Obama. Queen Elizabeth. Oprah. You.

When Twitter started seven years ago as an obscure medium for geeks, critics dismissed it as an exercise in narcissism. Some thought it would be as intriguing as watching people gaze at their bellybuttons. But it quickly matured into a worldwide messaging service used by everyone from heads of state to revolutionaries to companies trying to hawk products.

Now, Twitter is taking the next critical step in its evolution—selling stock to the public. It promises to be the most hyped and scrutinized initial public offerings since Facebook's Wall Street debut in May 2012. To be successful, the company will need to become an advertising behemoth and prove that the same service that has already helped change the course of history can also make money.

Twitter quietly slipped out news of its plan to go public in a tweet on Thursday after-



This screenshot taken from Twitter shows the company's posting on its official account Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013, that it has "confidentially submitted an S-1 to the SEC for a planned IPO."

noon. By the next morning, nearly 14,000 of Twitter's 200 million users had retransmitted the message.

"Twitter epitomizes the revolution of social media ... more than Facebook, more than YouTube," says Fordham University communications professor Paul Levinson, author of "New New Media." "It caters to the immediacy, the equality of all users."

And yet, Twitter really isn't that big. Only about 15 percent of Americans say they've ever used Twitter, according to an

August poll by the Pew Internet and American Life Project. That's up from 9 percent in June 2010. At the time of Facebook's IPO, an AP-CN-BC poll found that 56 percent of Americans said they had pages on Facebook. Some 17 percent said they used the site several times a day.

Twitter's 200 million global users represent about one-sixth of Facebook's 1.16 billion. If Facebook were a country, it would be the world's third-largest behind China and India. Twitter would clock in at No. 6,

edging out Pakistan.

Even so, Twitter generates more news than Facebook. A big part of that is its public nature, Levinson says. With their messages of 140 characters or less, most people tweet openly, for better or for worse, allowing the world a glimpse at their thoughts. Facebook, in contrast, gives its users a plethora of controls to hide or show posts to as many or as few people as they'd like. That means many users share updates only with people they already know.

2 BOG execs earn PMP credentials

HAGATNA, Guam—Two Bank of Guam executives, Maria Eugenia Leon Guerrero and Joseph J.Q. Pereira, have recently earned the Project Management Professional, or PMP® credential, awarded by the Project Management Institute.

Globally recognized and demanded, the PMP® credential demonstrates that an individual has the experience, education, and competency to lead and direct projects. The following requirements must be met to earn the credential: four-year degree (bachelor's degree or the global equivalent); three years



Leon Guerrero



Pereira

of project management experience, with 4,500 hours leading and directing projects; 35 hours of project management education, and achieving a passing score on the PMP® examination.

Leon Guerrero is a graduate of Guam's St. John's School, earning her undergraduate de-

gree in International Studies at the University of Washington in 2001. She completed her Master of Business Administration from the University of Washington Foster Business School in 2009 and joined Bank of Guam the same year as a management trainee.

In 2011, Leon Guerrero was named to oversee the bank's Six Sigma Program and became its strategic planning officer. In May 2013, Leon Guerrero was appointed vice president/Lean Six Sigma Champion and strategic planning officer.

Pereira is an alumnus of Fa-

ther Duenas Memorial School, and received his undergraduate degree from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering in Computer Systems Engineering in 2006. He has earned several Microsoft certifications including the Certified Professional Developer Certifications.

Pereira started as a software engineering consultant for Avana Inc. (Accenture/Microsoft) in San Francisco, earning successive promotions to software engineering project manager. In October 2011, Pereira joined the Bank of Guam as assistant vice president/project manager and was recently promoted to assistant vice president/senior project manager. **(BOG)**

Nation

Flooded Colo. towns clean up as rescues continue

ESTES PARK, Colo. (AP)—As Colorado mountain towns cut off for days by massive flooding slowly reopened, shopkeepers in this gateway to majestic Rocky Mountain National Park worked to both clean up and remove salvageable goods from ravaged businesses for fear the swollen Big Thompson River would rise again.

"We have limited time to get as much out as possible," Aspen Evergreen owner Tamara Jarolimek said as she and her husband, James, worked furiously Sunday.

Outside, crews plowed up to a foot of mud left standing along Main Street after the river late Thursday and early Friday coursed through the heart of town.

"I hope I have enough flood insurance," said Amy Hamrick, who had friends helping her pull up flooring and clear water and mud from the crawl space at her coffee shop. Her inventory, she said, was safely stashed at her home on higher grounds.

Meantime, hundreds of residents and evacuees gathered for updates from the town's administrator, Frank Lancaster, who



A house lays completely demolished in what was the path of the recent floods that have destroyed the town of Jamestown, Colo., on Sunday Sept. 14, 2013.

AP

been destroyed and about 17,500 have been damaged, according to an initial estimate released by the Colorado Office of Emergency Management on its website.

In addition, 11,700 people left their homes, and a total of 1,253 people have not been heard from, state emergency officials said.

With phone service being restored to some of the areas over the weekend, officials hoped that number would drop as they contacted more stranded people.

As many as 1,000 people in Larimer County were awaiting rescue Sunday, but airlifts were grounded because of the rain, Type 2 Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team commander Shane Del Grosso said.

Hundreds more people are unaccounted for to the south in Boulder County and other flood-affected areas.

The town of Lyons, about 20 miles from Estes Park, was almost completely abandoned. Emergency crews gave the few remaining residents, mostly wandering aimlessly on Main Street, looking for status updates from each other, a final warning to leave Sunday.

One man, a bluegrass musician, has been visiting his home every day and taking photos. The house has a river running through it and he can't get close.

Most of the town's trailer parks were completely destroyed. One angry man was throwing his possessions one-by-one into the river rushing along one side of his trailer on Sunday, watching the brown water carry them away while drinking a beer.

In Estes Park, Lancaster called the flood a 500-year event. He said it was worse than previous flash floods because of the sustained rains and widespread damage to infrastructure across the Rocky Mountain Foothills.

Trailer fire in Ohio kills 6 while mom is at work

TIFFIN, Ohio (AP)—A fire that ripped through a mobile home killed a man and five children ages 6 and under just a few hours after the children's mother left to work an early morning shift at a fast-food restaurant.

Anna Angel, the children's mother, lived in the home with the children and her boyfriend, a relative and neighbors said.

"She had a whole family and now she has nothing," said Owanna Ortiz, the woman's cousin. "Her kids were her life."

The fire that broke out shortly before 8 a.m. Sunday was fast moving and left neighbors stunned in the mobile home park in Tiffin, about 50 miles southeast of Toledo. Firefighters got all six people out in about 12 minutes, but they were pronounced dead at a hospital, Tiffin Fire Chief William Ennis Jr. said.

Authorities would not confirm the identities or relationships of those killed or comment on a possible cause. A state fire marshal's investigator said there were no indications of anything suspicious and it could take up to two days before authorities know how the six died.

"We won't release any more information until we know the cause of death," state investigator Tim Spradlin said.

dlin said.

Ortiz said Angel had four daughters of her own as well as a son with her boyfriend. The Blade newspaper in Toledo reported that Angel identified the children at the hospital where they were pronounced dead.

The family didn't have a car and had to get around on bicycles, Ortiz said. "If she had to get somewhere, they had two strollers they had to take, but they made it work," Ortiz said.

Angel was at work Sunday morning when she was told there was a fire at home, Ortiz said.

The two oldest children were in kindergarten and first grade, she said.

"They were always happy and full of sunshine," she said. "The older ones looked out for the younger ones."

Outside the charred home, neighbors stared at the trailer where left in the yard were a stroller, a little pink bicycle and an adult bicycle with a bike trailer for kids.

Nancy Williams, who manages the Highland Park Estates mobile home park and also lives there, said she yelled to her son to call 911 and ran to the home when a neighbor alerted her to the blaze.

"I knew there were babies in there," she said. "But once we got there, there was nothing we could do. It was fully

engulfed in flames and we couldn't get in."

The fire chief said there was heavy fire in the center of the mobile home and heavy smoke throughout it when firefighters arrived. Witnesses said the fire burned quickly, breaking out windows and peeling some of the trailer's aluminum siding.

"I watched the babies get dragged out," said neighbor, Rick Hummell. "It just made me sick."

He said he often saw the children outside and would give them money when the ice cream truck came through the trailer park. "She was always good to her kids," Hummell said of Angel.

Louis Keller lived across the road from the home that burned. "They would come over and play with my dogs," he said, as a strong smell of smoke blew across his yard.

Harry Miller, chief of the Bascom Joint Fire District outside Tiffin, said about 30 members of his volunteer department assisted Tiffin firefighters. He said fires involving children are among the most difficult for firefighters to handle.

"We had some new EMTs on the scene as well, and it's very tough on everyone when it involves kids," Miller said. "It hits home because we all have kids."

said "we are all crossing our fingers and praying" that it won't happen again.

Across town, comparisons were repeatedly drawn to two historic and disastrous flash floods: the Big Thompson Canyon Flood of 1976 that killed 145 people, and the Lawn Lake flood of 1982 that killed three.

"Take those times 10, that's what it looks like in the canyon," said Deyn Johnson, owner of the Whispering Pines cottages, three of which floated down the river after massive amounts of water were released from the town's dam. Johnson said the only warning she and her husband had to evacuate their home and their guest cabins came from their cat, Jezebel, who jumped on her sleeping

husband at 4:30 a.m., batting at him and yowling.

"I always thought we were safe unless the dam went," she said. "I credit the cat with saving my family and the lives of everyone in the cottages."

From the mountain communities east to the plains city of Fort Morgan, numerous pockets of individuals remained cut off by the flooding. Sunday's rain hampered the helicopter searches, and rescuers trekked by ground up dangerous canyon roads to reach some of those homes isolated since Wednesday.

The surging waters have been deadly, with four people confirmed dead and two more missing and presumed dead after their homes were swept away.

Some 1,500 homes have

ACROSS THE NATION

Wife's fear leads to new look at husband in deaths

WATERLOO, N.Y. (AP)—An upstate New York man charged with killing his son for a \$700,000 insurance payout is waiting to see whether a secretly recorded conversation with his wife, along with a statement he signed for police, will be allowed at trial. A Seneca County judge is expected to rule this month on efforts by Karl Karlsen's lawyer to keep both out. Karlsen's wife, Cindy, last week testified about the suspicions that led her to cooperate with investigators and secretly record a 2012 conversation that Karlsen's lawyer says is privileged. Karlsen has pleaded not

guilty to killing his son Levi in 2008 by causing the truck he was working under to fall on him. Cindy Karlsen says she feared for her safety after learning Karlsen had a \$1.2 million life insurance policy on her.

NC officer charged with shooting unarmed man

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—The deadly encounter was set in motion when a former college football player survived a wreck and went searching for help in the middle of the night. A frightened woman heard him pounding and opened her front door, then called police. Officers found the unarmed man, and one shot him when a Taser failed to stop him from

approaching. Within hours, investigators determined that the shooting had been excessive and charged the Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer with voluntary manslaughter in the death of former Florida A&M University football player Jonathan A. Ferrell. Ferrell, 24, played for Florida A&M in 2009 and 2010, school officials said Sunday. He had recently moved to North Carolina. Early Saturday, he had apparently been in a wreck and was seeking help at a nearby house, according to a statement from Charlotte-Mecklenburg police. A woman answered the door and, when she didn't recognize the man, called 911.

Asia

Powerful typhoon lashes Japan, thousands evacuate

TOKYO (AP)—A powerful typhoon was bearing down on Japan and headed toward Tokyo on Monday, dumping torrential rains, damaging homes and flooding parts of the country's popular tourist destination of Kyoto, where 260,000 people were ordered to evacuate to shelters.

Dozens were injured and public broadcaster NHK said four people were missing.

Typhoon Man-yi, one of the worst storms to lash Japan this season, was packing wind speeds of 162 kilometers (100 miles) per hour at midday and headed toward Japan's capital region.

The government has set up an emergency task force to assess damage and support rescue effort, said Prime Minister's Office official Hikariko Ono. Kyoto and neighboring

Shiga prefecture have asked the Defense Ministry to mobilize relief teams.

NHK said at least four people were missing and 48 people were injured in 16 western and central prefectures since Sunday, citing its own tally. Among them were two women in their 70s when a mudslide hit their respective houses in Shiga and Fukui in western Japan. A man fell into a swollen river when he went to check fish traps in Fukushima prefecture.

More than 700 homes were flooded across the western and central Japan, NHK said.

As the typhoon traveled eastward, trains in Tokyo and its vicinity were largely suspended and hundreds of flights were grounded.

The storm dumped an "un-

precedented amount of rainfall" in Kyoto and two of its neighboring prefectures it passed overnight, dumping as much as 8 centimeters (3 inches) per hour, the Meteorological

Agency said. The agency lifted a "special warning" for the area was earlier Monday but urged residents to stay alert.

In Kyoto, where the city's major Katsura River flooded,

some 260,000 people were told to evacuate. NHK showed tourists in Kyoto being taken to safety on boats on a flooded riverside street, towed by rescue workers.

Hundreds of thousands of others were also ordered to evacuate in western Japan. About 80,000 houses were without electricity in western and central Japan.



A couple struggle to walk in a strong wind caused by an approaching typhoon in Tokyo Monday, Sept. 16, 2013.

AP

ASIAN BRIEFS

Officials: Shot policewoman dies in Afghanistan

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghan officials say a top policewoman in the country's south has died from gunshot wounds inflicted by unknown attackers, months after her predecessor was slain. Sub-Inspector Negar, 38, suffered a bullet wound to the neck. Helmand province government spokesman Omar Zawak and police spokesman Fareed Ahmad Obaidi said she died early Monday. Negar, known by just one name, worked in the Helmand police's criminal investigation department in Lashkar Gah city. She'd spoken out about the need for female police officers in Afghanistan, which has seen a string of attacks on prominent women. Negar's predecessor as top female officer in Helmand, Islam Bibi, was gunned down in July.

Cambodian PM, opposition leader hold tense talks

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodia's long-ruling Prime Minister Hun Sen met the head of the main opposition party Monday in a bid to resolve a political stalemate, a day after violent clashes on the streets of Phnom Penh left one dead and several wounded. The meeting at the National Assembly was expected to be tense, with opposition leader Sam Rainsy vowing to step up demonstrations to protest alleged cheating in the country's July elections. Protesters clashed with riot police and one policeman was injured in Sunday's demonstrations, which marked one of the biggest challenges yet against the autocratic rule of Hun Sen, who has been in power for nearly three decades.

Malaysia's ex-communist leader dies in Thailand

BANGKOK (AP)—Thai officials say Chin Peng, who led a bloody insurgency against British rule in Malaysia and had lived in exile for five decades since then, has died in a Bangkok hospital. He was reportedly 88 or 90 years old. A Thai army official said Chin Peng died of cancer early Monday morning. He was Malaysia's best-known former communist guerrilla. He led an insurgency against British and Commonwealth forces during the period known as the Emergency, the bloodiest time in the country's modern history. Some 10,000 people are believed to have been killed. Chin Peng lost a legal struggle in recent years to be allowed back into Malaysia. Government leaders insisted his return would upset many Malaysians who lost their loved ones during the communist insurgency.

Australia to start turning back asylum seekers

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Prime Minister elect Tony Abbott says Australia's contentious new policy on asylum seekers that includes turning their boats back to Indonesia would begin on Wednesday when his government is sworn in. Abbott said Monday he hopes to travel to Indonesia for high-level meetings before he is due to attend a summit of Asia-Pacific leaders in the resort island of Bali in early October. Abbott led his conservative coalition to a crushing election victory on Sept. 7, partly on a promise to stop an increasing number of asylum seekers from reaching Australian shores aboard Indonesian fishing boats. His approach to the problem includes turning the boats back and buying boats from Indonesian fishing villages to prevent them falling into the hands of people smugglers. Indonesian officials have criticized both strategies.

South Koreans back at reopened inter-Korea factory

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean businessman Sung Hyun-sang's relief at the resumption of operations at a jointly run factory park in North Korea is tempered by big worries: Can he make up for the millions of dollars he's lost since Pyongyang shut down the Kaesong complex in April?

About 800 South Koreans began returning Monday to their factories at the Kaesong park located just north of the Demilitarized Zone to team up with North Korean employees and test-run idle assembly lines. Some are also resuming production.

The reopening of the factories, after a spring that saw threats of nuclear war from Pyongyang, as well as a vow to restart atomic bomb fuel production, is the latest visible sign of easing tension between the rival Koreans.

But for the businessmen at Kaesong, many of whom, like Sung, operate small or mid-sized companies that need the cheap labor the North Korean

factories provide, there's a nagging worry about the future. The companies at Kaesong say they've lost a combined total of about 1 trillion won (about \$920 million) over the past five

months and will reportedly need up to a year to get their businesses back on track.

"I feel good about the park's resumption, but I also have a heavy heart," said Sung, presi-

dent of apparel manufacturer Mansun Corporation, which has lost about 7 billion won (\$6.4 million) because of the shutdown. "We've suffered too much damage."

Wide-open Afghan presidential race kicks off

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghanistan's presidential race kicked off Monday as election authorities began accepting the nominations of would-be candidates, the start of a wide-open race whose winner will oversee the final phases of the withdrawal of U.S.-led troops amid a relentless Taliban insurgency.

The election, set for April 5, will also mark the first transfer of power from incumbent President Hamid Karzai, who has in some form or shape led Afghanistan since the Taliban government was ousted in the American-led invasion in 2001. Karzai is barred from running for a third four-year term.

Candidates have until Oct. 6 to submit their names, along

with a hefty fee and voter identification information of 100,000 people backing them. No major candidates are expected to submit their nominations until closer to the Oct. 6 deadline, part of a waiting game to see how the field shapes up.

There are no clear favorites in the race, but speculation in recent days has focused on Foreign Minister Zalmai Rassoul. Rassoul is a former national security adviser with a medical degree who has tended to stay out of the limelight and could end up being a consensus candidate among some of the many political factions in this nation of 31 million.

Other potential candidates include: Abdullah Abdullah, an

opposition leader who lost to Karzai in 2009; Ashraf Ghani, a well-known academic and former finance minister with a reputation as a technocrat who also lost the last election; Hanif Atmar, a former interior minister who has grown critical of Karzai; and Farooq Wardak, the education minister who is involved in efforts to pursue peace talks with Taliban insurgents.

Some speculation also has focused on Abdul Rab Rasoul Sayyaf, an influential lawmaker with a long history as a jihadist and allegations of past links to Arab militants including Osama bin Laden. He would likely be the most controversial candidate, at least among Afghanistan's foreign allies.

World

Syrian official: Chemical weapons deal a 'victory'

BEIRUT (AP)—A high-ranking Syrian official called the U.S.-Russian agreement on securing Syria's chemical weapons a "victory" for President Bashar Assad's regime, but the U.S. warned Sunday "the threat of force is real" if Damascus fails to carry out the plan.

The comments by Syrian Minister of National Reconciliation Ali Haidar to a Russian state news agency were the first by a senior Syrian government official on the deal struck a day earlier in Geneva. Under the agreement, Syria will provide

an inventory of its chemical arsenal within one week and hand over all of the components of its program by mid-2014.

"We welcome these agreements," Haidar was quoted as saying by the RIA Novosti agency. "On the one hand, they will help Syrians get out of the crisis, and on the other hand, they averted a war against Syria by removing the pretext for those who wanted to unleash one."

He added: "These agreements are a credit to Russian diplomacy and the Russian

leadership. This is a victory for Syria, achieved thanks to our Russian friends."

There has been no official statement from the Syrian government, and it was not clear whether Haidar's comments reflected Assad's thinking.

The deal, hashed out in marathon negotiations between U.S. and Russian diplomats, averts American missile strikes against the Assad regime, although the Obama administration has warned that the military option remains on the table if Damascus does not comply. President

Barack Obama said last week the U.S. Navy will maintain its increased presence in the eastern Mediterranean Sea to keep pressure on Syria and to be in position to respond if diplomacy fails.

"The threat of force is real, and the Assad regime and all those taking part need to understand that President Obama and the United States are committed to achieve this goal," U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Sunday in Jerusalem, where he briefed Israeli leaders on the agreement.

He also said the agreement, if successful, "will have set a marker for the standard of behavior with respect to Iran and with respect North Korea and any rogue state, (or) group that tries to reach for these kind of weapons."

French President Francois Hollande said in a televised address to his country that he has

not ruled out the "military option," either. Otherwise, he said, "there will be no pressure."

The U.S. accuses the Assad government of using poison gas against rebel-held suburbs of Damascus on Aug. 21, killing more than 1,400 people. Other death toll estimates are far lower. Syria denies the allegations and blames the rebels.

WORLD BRIEFS

Police: suicide car bomb kills 3 in Chechnya

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian news reports say three policemen have been killed and four injured by a suicide car bombing in Chechnya. The reports, citing the regional Interior Ministry, say the bombing occurred before dawn Monday at the police station in the village of Sernovodsk. The reports say the car was spotted speeding toward the station and that it exploded after police raised a barrier at the perimeter of the station. Separatist rebels fought two full-scale wars with Russian troops in Chechnya over the past 20 years. Although the insurgency has been largely suppressed, sporadic attacks persist.

4 Boko Haram members die after arrests in Nigeria

YOLA, Nigeria (AP)—Vigilantes helped arrest at least 11 members of the Islamic sect in Nigeria's northeast and four of the suspects died in custody, a military official said Sunday. The Boko Haram members were arrested Saturday in the town of Michika in Adamawa state, said Lt. Col. Beyidi Martins, the commanding officer of the battalion meant to help capture those in the Islamic sect. Six of the suspects were brought to Maiduguri, the birthplace of Boko Haram some years ago, and the other five were brought to Mubi. He said that four of the five who were brought to Mubi were beaten by the vigilante group because they tried to resist arrest. He said two of the suspects died Saturday because of their injuries. "Two others died today (Sunday) of injuries. We now have one still alive and is being interrogated," Beyidi said.

Storm delays lifting of capsized ship off Italy

GIGLIO ISLAND, Italy (AP)—A fierce thunderstorm has delayed the start of a daring bid to raise upright the Costa Concordia cruise ship which capsized off the coast of Italy in 2012. Italy's Civil Protection chief Franco Gabrielli said the storm, which hit Giglio Island at about 1 a.m. Monday (2300 GMT Sunday), hadn't been forecast. The storm delayed the positioning close to the shipwreck of a barge carrying a remote control room where engineers will work using pulleys and counterweights to delicately nudge the Concordia free from its rocky seabed perch outside the harbor. They aim to raise it 65 degrees to vertical for eventual towing. The Concordia crashed into a reef in January 2012, killing 32 people. Gabrielli said the operation should start at about 8 a.m. (0600GMT).

Big storms hit Mexico on opposite coasts; 21 dead

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP)—The remnants of Tropical Storm Manuel continued to deluge Mexico's southwestern Pacific shoulder with dangerous rains while Hurricane Ingrid headed for a Monday landfall on the country's opposite coast in an unusual double onslaught that federal authorities said had caused at least 21 deaths. The heaviest blow Sunday fell on the southern coastal state of Guerrero, where Mexico's government reported 14 confirmed deaths. State officials said people had been killed in landslides, drownings in a swollen river and a truck crash on a rain-slickened mountain highway. Mexico's federal Civil Protection coordinator, Luis Felipe Puente, told reporters late Sunday that stormy weather from one or both of the two systems also caused three deaths in Hidalgo, three in Puebla and one in Oaxaca.

6 die in stampede from Bogota bar raided by police

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—Colombian authorities say six people died from suffocation or being crushed during a stampede from a crowded bar that police raided. Federal prosecutors are investigating whether police used excessive force. Witnesses have told local media that officers sprayed pepper gas when they entered the "Night Club" bar early Sunday, causing the approximately about 100 people inside to join a rush to escape. National director of investigations for the attorney general's office Maritza Escobar says the incident happened in the Restrepo neighborhood on the south side of Colombia's capital. Escobar says the six victims were smothered or crushed, and police say two other people suffered serious injuries. Bogota police say the bar had been closed four times previously for bad behavior.

Bombings kill 58 in south and central Iraq



Iraqi security forces inspect the site of a car bomb attack in Basra, 340 miles (550 kilometers) southeast of Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013.

BAGHDAD (AP)—A wave of car bombings and other attacks in Iraq killed at least 58 people in mostly Shiite-majority cities on Sunday, another bloody reminder of the government's failure to stem the surge of violence that is feeding sectarian tensions.

Iraq is experiencing its deadliest bout of violence since 2008, raising fears the country is returning to a period of widespread killing such as that which pushed it to the brink of civil war following the 2003 U.S.-led invasion. More than 4,000 people have been killed in attacks since the start of April, including 804 just in August, according to United Nations figures.

Sunday's deadliest attack was in the city of Hillah, 95 kilometers (60 miles) south of Baghdad, where a car bomb near an outdoor market killed nine civilians and wounded 15

others, a police officer said. A few minutes later, another car bomb went off nearby, killing six civilians and wounding 14, he added.

In the nearby town of Iskandariyah, 50 kilometers (30 miles) south of the capital, another car bomb hit a parking lot, killing four civilians and wounding nine, police said.

Another car bomb went off in an industrial area of the Shiite city of Karbala, killing five and wounding 25, a police officer said. Karbala is 80 kilometers (50 miles) south of Baghdad. In the aftermath, security officials inspected burnt-out cars in front of what appeared to be a smashed row of workshops.

In Kut, another Shiite-dominated city 160 kilometers (100 miles) southeast of Baghdad, a car bomb targeted construction workers and food stalls, killing two and wounding 14, another

provincial police officer said.

Seven more civilians were killed and 31 others were wounded when four separate car bombs ripped through the towns of Suwayrah and Hafriyah outside Kut, police said.

In Baghdad's northern Sunni-dominated Azamiyah neighborhood, a car bomb that exploded near the convoy of the head of Baghdad's provincial council killed three and wounded eight, police say. The council head escaped unharmed.

Two other car bombs hit the southern cities of Basra and Nasiriyah, killing eight civilians and wounding 26, two police officers said. And two more civilians were killed when a bomb hit a police patrol in Baghdad's Sunni western suburb of Abu Ghraib. Nine other people were wounded.

To the northeast of Baghdad, gunmen broke into a farm in

the village of Abu Sayda and killed three Sunni farmers, police said.

No one has claimed responsibility for the blasts, which targeted commercial areas and parking lots in seven cities. But systematically organized waves of bombings are often used by al-Qaida's local branch, known as the Islamic State of Iraq, to undermine confidence in the Shiite-led government.

Sometimes insurgents launch multiple attacks for two or more days in a row. On Saturday, 27 people were killed in suicide attacks, bombings and shootings.

In the afternoon, police found the bodies of four Sunni men killed with gunshots to the head. The men, all relatives, were kidnapped early Sunday by gunmen who stormed their house in Baghdad's southern Youssifiyah suburb.

Focus

Looking closer at the role of life insurance in military suicides

By ALAN ZAREMBO
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Army Spc. James Christian Paquette walked into the benefits office at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, with a question: Did his military life insurance policy pay in cases of suicide? He was assured that it did.

Less than two weeks later, he shot and killed himself—and his family collected \$400,000.

His widow struggles with the question of whether he would have proceeded with his plan if suicide had not been covered. “He just wanted to know we would be provided for,” Jami Calahan said. “It may have been a weight taken away.”

The role of life insurance has not been closely examined in the quest to understand why 352 active-duty service members took their own lives last year—more than double the number a decade earlier.

The suicide rate began rising sharply in 2005. That same year, as casualties mounted in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, Congress raised the standard coverage from \$250,000 to \$400,000, which most service members carry. If they die on active duty, their families also receive a \$100,000 “death gratuity.”

The coverage begins upon enlistment. By comparison, private insurance policies in the U.S. typically don’t cover suicide for the first two years a policy is in effect.

“In certain cases, it absolutely could factor in,” said Thomas Joiner, a Florida State University psychologist studying military suicide. “You’re already thinking my death will be worth more than my life to my friends, my family and society.”

Paquette’s widow, who said she learned about her husband’s visit to the benefits office from military investigators, couldn’t understand why nobody intervened after her husband raised a red flag by asking about coverage.

In some ways, though, his July 2011 suicide seemed unstoppable, she said. Her husband became deeply disturbed during his deployment to Afghanistan, where he had accidentally gunned down a young boy during a firefight.

Three years after his return, he became suicidal and was hospitalized for a month of psychiatric care. He died three weeks after his release at age 40, leaving behind two sons.

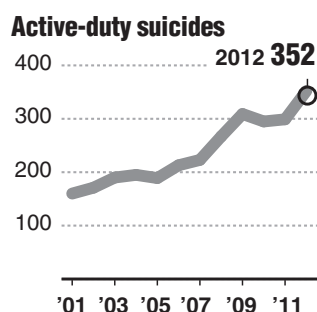
“He felt we were better off without him,” said Calahan, who has since remarried.

The military first offered life insurance during World War I, because service members could not buy private policies, which excluded war. The current policy dates to a 1965 law and covers all causes of death except execution for treason.

Given the complexity of suicide and the military, experts have struggled to tease apart the causes of the suicide epidemic.

Bigger picture

Active-duty military suicides reached a high in 2012, and a significant number of inactive reserve and National Guard troops also took their own lives.



2012 suicides



© 2013 MCT
Source: Department of Defense Suicide Event Report, individual services
Graphic: Alan Zarembo, Matt Moody, Los Angeles Times

Research has downplayed the role of deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. More than half the active-duty suicide victims between 2008 and 2011 had never been to the war zones.

One theory gaining traction is that over the last decade, more people entered the military with pre-existing risk factors for suicide.

No expert suggested that insurance was a major driver. But for service members who are already distressed, knowing that death comes with a financial reward for their families could provide extra motivation, researchers said.

The idea is not new.

In India, thousands of cotton farmers have committed suicide in recent years after becoming indebted to aggressive money lenders. Media reports there have suggested that some states unwittingly contributed to the problem by paying compensation to their families.

And researchers have found that restrictions on coverage



In this September 2007 photograph provided by wife Jami Calahan, Army Spc. James Christian Paquette is shown at the beginning of his deployment in Afghanistan.

can influence suicide rates among people who buy private life insurance.

A 2004 study at the University of Chicago found that the suicide rate quadrupled after the initial two-year exclusion period. In 2010, researchers analyzing insurance data from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Papua New Guinea found a suicide spike immediately after the 13-month exclusion period in those countries.

That study also showed that policyholders who died of suicide were insured for greater sums than those who died of natural causes.

Paul Yip, the lead author and director of suicide prevention research at the University of Hong Kong, said the results suggest that having more life insurance can make suicide more tempting.

Extending the exclusion period would save lives, he said, citing the example of Japan, which

lengthened its exclusion to three years in response to rising suicide claims during the 1990s. According to a 2011 analysis published by one of its biggest carriers, Nippon Life Insurance, policyholders with longer exclusions committed suicide at slightly lower rates, even after coverage kicked in.

“With an exclusion period, you are buying time,” Yip said. “You have more opportunity to come in and change the situation.”

He said it is something the U.S. military should consider, especially because significant numbers of its suicides occur relatively soon after enlistment.

Though suicides are extremely rare during basic training, when recruits are under tight supervision, the rate quickly accelerates.

Data from the Army, which has the highest rate, show that a quarter of the 1,155 suicides between 2009 and 2012 held the rank of private first class or lower—positions dominated by soldiers with less than two years of service. More than 70 percent of those had never deployed to war.

But other experts noted that studies based on private insurance holders—a self-selecting group that tends to be well-off socioeconomically—may have little meaning for the military, where insurance is essentially standard-issue.

Ronald Maris, a suicide expert at the University of South Carolina, said he doubted life insurance had much, if any, effect on suicide rates in the military.

“Most people who commit suicide are impulsive, and it’s often related to acute stress,” Maris said. “I don’t think they’re that calculating.”

Jacqueline Garrick, the director of the Defense Department’s Suicide Prevention Office, said that most suicide victims were not of sound mind and any restrictions on coverage would be unfair to their families.

“Family members should not be punished or penalized because of a medical condition of their loved one,” she said.

Still, some families are left to grapple with the issue.

Sam Smith, a pipe fitter from Rootstown, Ohio, who was a sergeant in the Army National Guard, was found to have post-traumatic stress disorder after returning from Iraq in 2005. He used to tell his wife that he was worth more dead than alive to her and their four daughters.

“He said the girls would be set,” Kami Smith recalled. “We wouldn’t have to worry about anything.”

“I would tell him, the girls need a dad, and that’s not funny.”

As his distress worsened over the years, he continued to quip about the life insurance policy.

By the spring of 2011, he was questioning his marriage and falling behind on house payments. The bank launched foreclosure proceedings.

He killed himself with a handgun that July at age 33.

The \$400,000 spared his family enormous financial hardship but nothing more.

“With everything swirling around in his mind, I know he was thinking at least they’re going to be OK,” his widow said. “But we’re not OK.”

Overdrive

1967 Porsche 911: Simple charm and a lot of personality

By DAVID UNDERCOFFLER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

A raspy boxer engine hangs off the back end. Two oval headlights and a flat hood point toward the asphalt. A large tachometer occupies the prime real estate on the instrument panel of this perfectly preserved 1967 Porsche 911.

That the modern-day 911 still includes these character traits testifies to the car's enduring shape and spirit. Yet the differences emerge in a drive of this Sand Beige classic up a forgotten road in Carmel Valley, Calif. It's smaller, simpler, lighter. And it oozes personality with every flick of the large wood-trimmed steering wheel.

The 911 made its public debut this month in 1963 at the Frankfurt Auto Show, where it was originally dubbed the 901, before Peugeot claimed rights to that name. The 911 went on sale a year later in 1964. Meant merely to replace the aging Porsche 356, the 911 quickly became the darling of the sports car set.

"The overall impression is that this car was built by men who know something about fast motoring and that it is destined for owners who feel the same," Road and Track wrote in a 1965 review of the 911.

Fifty years later, Porsche has sold more than 820,000 copies of the 911, according to the automaker. It's now in its seventh generation; buyers today can choose among a dozen iterations that have between 350 horsepower and 560 horsepower, with more versions expected.

The 911 also has one of the most storied private and factory racing histories of any production car, with multiple victories around the globe in such blue-blood race events as the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

The original 911's shape has remained largely unchanged during its evolution and is arguably the most recognized silhouette in the automotive lexicon. It was the creation of



LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

The Porsche 911 began selling in the mid-'60s. Meant merely to replace the aging Porsche 356, the 911 quickly became the darling of the sports car set. In Los Angeles, California, a 1967 Porsche 911, nearly identical to the original 1965 version, on Sept. 7, 2013.

Ferdinand A. Porsche, grandson of the founder of the company, who died in 2012 at age 76.

At the front of the original 911, flanked by two chrome-rimmed headlights, was a low-slung hood hiding a surprisingly useful trunk. From the top of the upright windshield, a teardrop roofline falls in a single line to the end of the rear deck lid.

Power was modest by today's standards. A 2.0-liter, air-cooled flat six-cylinder engine (also called a boxer) sat aft of the rear axle and pushed 128 horsepower to the rear wheels. When Road & Track magazine tested a 1965 911, it recorded a nine-second zero-to-60 time. Top speed was 132 mph.

A five-speed manual transmission came standard, with a gate pattern that put reverse where most drivers today would look for first gear. Disc brakes and leatherette seats were also stan-

dard; leather seats and seat belts would cost extra.

List price was about \$6,500—about \$48,000 in today's dollars. That's a far cry from the \$90,000 or so you'd need to buy one today.

The 1967 model we sneaked away in for an afternoon of driving during Monterey Car Week is nearly identical to the original 1965 version. Porsche had made small constant changes to items such as windshield wipers and rear-view mirrors. But the mechanicals and dimensions of the car remain unchanged.

The unrestored car is owned by Porsche, which bought it from a private owner. The odometer reads just over 73,000 miles, and other than regular maintenance and a plethora of promotional stickers showing where the car's travels have taken it, the car is no different from when it rolled off the

dealer's lot 46 years ago.

Inside, headroom is ample and visibility is good. Behind the front seats are a pair of small folding rear seats that seem more useful than in the 2013 version. The instrument panel houses five gauges with a large tach at the center.

Mounted within the brushed metal dashboard is a small AM/FM radio. Curiously—by 2013 standards—the dash is void of air vents. Instead, they're mounted below the door sills and are controlled by a floor-mounted lever near the shifter.

It doesn't feel conspicuously small until you park it next to a contemporary 911. Time causes us all to expand, and this car is no different. The 2013 model is about a foot longer, 7 1/2 inches wider, yet almost an inch lower. Curb weight has swollen from 2,360 pounds to 3,042.

On the roads heading inland from

Carmel, the '67 911 quickly showed itself to be a sweetheart of a car. It's a lively, competent machine that, with a wink and a nudge, reminds the driver how much fun driving can be.

This fun comes less from speed than engagement. After just a few twisty miles, it's easy to get a sense of how the car moves its mass through a turn. The feel for the road grows with every successive corner, aided by rack-and-pinion steering, independent rear suspension and a relatively short wheelbase.

With less power at hand than its heirs, it's harder to get this 911 into the trouble these rear-engined cars were later known for. Sure, there's a hint of oversteer, but it's predictable in a comforting way to anyone familiar with rear-wheel-drive sports cars.

The clutch and shifter both have an easy feel, though it's not hard to grab fourth when you're looking for second and vice versa. The engine pulls smoothly over a wide power band on the way to its 6,800-rpm redline. It's most lively high in the rev band, and it kicks out a note that is both more raspy and less frenetic than a contemporary car.

In the modern 911, a host of electronic driving aids can numb the experience; the original car, by comparison, feels much more natural, with a personality few cars can match.

By the numbers, a 2013 model blows away its ancestor in speed, handling and comfort—along with most anything on the road today. But its stern composure and singular focus on excellence have left simple charm on the cutting-room floor. Smiles come much quicker in the older car.

Heading back toward Carmel, this '67 Porsche gradually catches up to a late-model Ford Mustang rental, probably headed to Monterey for the car week. Seeing the light tan 911 sneak into his rear-view mirror, the driver pulls over and beckons a pass.

Though the modern Mustang could easily set a pace that would push the capabilities of this aging Porsche, a nice ribbon of asphalt opens up just beyond this section of road. It's best not to waste the opportunity.

MOTORING Q&A

'Check engine' light could be caused by several conditions

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: We have a 2009 Chevrolet Cobalt with standard transmission. The "check engine" light has been coming on, and the dealer has diagnosed the problem as carbon buildup and low compression in cylinder No. 4. The car had 116,000 miles on it when this occurred. My research tells me carbon buildup should create high compression.

ANSWER: Not necessarily. If the carbon buildup is on the piston rings or ring grooves, it can prevent the rings from sealing properly, thus creating low compression. It's worth trying to "de-carbonize" the engine with GM's Top Engine Cleaner or SeaFoam Motor Treatment. I've had

some success by removing the spark plugs from a warm engine and pouring a couple of ounces of SeaFoam directly into the cylinders and letting it sit for several hours. Disable the ignition and injection before cranking the engine to expel any excess additive before reinstalling the plugs and starting the engine.

If this doesn't help, listening to where air pressure is escaping during a cylinder leakdown test—throttle body (intake valve), tailpipe (exhaust valve), oil filler or PCV port (piston rings/cylinder)—might pinpoint the problem.

Q: I have a 1990 Honda Civic with 110,000 miles. I don't drive it every day, but when I do, it almost always starts to run rough after 15 to 30 minutes, and it does not have the same power to accelerate as it does when it is running normally. If

I am stopping and going a lot, it gets progressively worse till it won't stay running. If I turn it off for a few minutes the problem goes away; then the cycle repeats. It is worse in hot weather.

I thought it might be vapor lock, but I have opened the gas cap to test this and the problem remained. There is a diagnostic light under the passenger's side, and if I read it correctly, it gives Code 1—the oxygen sensor/primary. Do you have any ideas what to check or repair?

A: First off, opening the fuel filler cap is not an adequate check for vapor lock. By definition, vapor lock is literally "fuel percolation," where under-hood temperatures reach high enough levels to actually boil the ready fuel supply, causing a loss of fuel pressure. You could have some type of evapora-

tive emission system issue that is not allowing the fuel tank to vent properly, starving the engine of fuel.

Another potential cause could be some type of exhaust or catalytic-converter restriction causing excess exhaust back pressure, literally choking the engine of power. A glowing red exhaust manifold when the loss of power occurs would be a good indication of this.

With regard to the Code 1, according to my Alldata automotive database, this identifies an oxygen sensor circuit problem—either a wiring/connection issue or a failed/tired O2 sensor that's driving the fuel-air mixture extremely rich or lean.

Another relatively simple cause for a rich fuel-air mixture and the resulting driveability issues would be a leaky diaphragm in the fuel-pressure regulator,

allowing excess fuel to be drawn into the engine.

Q: After my 1953 Ford with a flat-head V-8 is not run for a while, the crankcase gets contaminated with gasoline. What is causing this?

A: The only way raw fuel can leak into an engine crankcase while the engine is not running is through a leaky carburetor float system or, on an engine that utilizes a cam-driven mechanical fuel pump, through a leaky fuel pump diaphragm.

I assume your Ford is relatively stock and relatively "mature," meaning carburetor and fuel-pump components are not only older (original?) but sensitive to today's alcohol-blended fuels.

Fixes include bypassing the mechanical fuel pump to install a low-pressure electric pump and fuel-pressure regulator or installing mechanical fuel pump "hardened" for today's fuels, and rebuilding the carburetor with upgraded float, needle and seat.

Life & Style

Bob Newhart finally gets his Emmy Award

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bob Newhart, among TV's most enduring stars with shows stretching back more than five decades, wept as he finally captured his first Emmy Award.

Newhart, 84, was honored at Sunday's creative arts Emmy ceremony for his guest role last season on "The Big Bang Theory" as Professor Proton, a down-on-his-luck former host of a children's science show.

"This is my seventh shot at this. ... I just love this very much," he said, gazing tearfully at the trophy in his hand as the audience gave him a standing ovation.

Newhart's long TV history includes the 1970s "The Bob Newhart Show," "Newhart" in the 1980s and "Bob" in the '90s and six previous nominations. His 1961 variety series "The Bob Newhart Show" earned a writing bid.

Backstage, Newhart said at one point he'd given up submitting his name for Emmy consideration.

"I just felt the kind of stuff I do doesn't win awards. I didn't

want to go through the process, the disappointment," he said.

In addition to Newhart, other winners for guest turns included Melissa Leo for the sitcom "Louie" and, on the drama series side, Dan Bucatinsky for "Scandal" and Carrie Preston for "The Good Wife."

With eight statuettes, HBO's Liberace biopic "Behind the Candelabra" was the night's top-winning individual program at the ceremony honoring technical and other achievements. The movie will compete for seven more nominations at next Sunday's Primetime Emmy Awards.

Heidi Klum and Tim Gunn of "Project Runway" won for outstanding host for a reality or reality-competition show, and "Undercover Boss" for outstanding reality program.

Lily Tomlin received the trophy for best voice-over perfor-



AP
Bob Newhart poses backstage with his award for outstanding guest actor in a comedy series for "The Big Bang Theory" at the Primetime Creative Arts Emmy Awards at the Nokia Theatre L.A. Live on Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013, in Los Angeles.

mance for her narration of "An Apology to Elephants," a documentary about the treatment of captive elephants.

Netflix's "House of Cards," the first online program to compete for top drama series honors, picked up trophies Sunday for casting and for cinematography for a single-camera series.

HBO earned a leading 20 awards, followed by CBS with 15 and NBC with eight.

Neil Patrick Harris will host next Sunday's ceremony airing on CBS.

Other winners at the creative arts Emmys included:

■ Commercial: "Inspired," Canon.

■ Animated Program: "South Park: Raising the Bar," Comedy Central.

■ Nonfiction series: "American Masters," PBS.

■ Children's Program: "Nick News with Linda Ellerbee: Forgotten But Not Gone: Kids, HIV & AIDS," Nickelodeon.

■ Music composition for a series (original dramatic score): "Downton Abbey: Episode 6," PBS.

■ Music composition for

a miniseries, movie or special: "World Without End: Medieval Life and Death," ReelzChannel.

■ Casting for a miniseries, movie or a special: "Behind The Candelabra," HBO.

■ Casting for a comedy series: "30 Rock," NBC.

■ Costumes for a miniseries, movie or a special: "Behind The Candelabra," HBO.

■ Costumes for a variety-music program or a special (more than one award possible): "The 55th Annual Grammy Awards," CBS.

■ Costumes for a series: "The Borgias: The Gunpowder Plot," Showtime.

■ Stunt coordination for a comedy series or variety program: "Supah Ninjas," Nickelodeon.

■ Stunt coordination for a drama series, miniseries or movie: "Revolution: Nobody's Fault But Mine," NBC.

Singer k.d. lang joins Broadway's 'After Midnight'

NEW YORK (AP)—Grammy Award-winning singer k.d. lang has sung everything from country songs to folk and torch songs. Now she's about to unleash her jazz side—on Broadway.

The Canadian singer-songwriter will take over from Fantasia Barrino as the second star vocalist in "After Midnight," a musical celebrating Duke Ellington's years at the famous Cotton Club nightclub in Harlem. Lang starts performances Feb. 11 and will end her run March 9.

Directed and choreographed by Warren Carlyle with musical direction by Wynton Marsalis, the show appeared off-Broadway last year at New York City Center under the name "Cotton Club Parade." Songs include "Stormy Weather," "I Can't Give You Anything But Love" and "I've Got the World on a String." The show stars Dule Hill who will play the host of the show.

Performances start Oct. 18 at the Brooks Atkinson Theatre, with an official opening night set for Nov. 3.

In a career spanning 25 years, lang has won four Grammys and is perhaps best known for her cover of Roy Orbison's "Crying," her interpretation of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" and her hit song "Constant Craving." In April, she was inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame.



k.d. lang

Keith Urban pulls in team of 8 producers on 'Fuse'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Keith Urban didn't need to change a thing.

With an enviable consistency, the "American Idol" judge remains a platinum-selling, arena-filling guitar slinger after spinning hits for 15 years—not to mention the movie-star wife and the Dorian Gray good looks. Yet when it came time to record his latest album, Urban decided to alter the formula even as he reached new peaks in popularity.

The deluxe version of Urban's new album, "Fuse," is stuffed with 16 songs recorded with eight producers from widely different backgrounds. There are entries from Urban's longtime collaborator, country hit machine Dann Huff, but also tracks from a menagerie that includes rock and rap mainstay Mike Elizondo, Nashville maverick Jay Joyce, Norwegian hitmakers Stargate, Taylor Swift collaborator Nathan Chapman and rocker Butch Walker.



AP
This Aug. 22, 2013 photo shows Keith Urban posing for a portrait in a studio in Nashville, Tenn.

"I felt like an air traffic controller trying to land 16 planes," Urban said.

Getting everything down on the tarmac took the 45-year-old Australian a year longer than expected. It's been three years since Urban released his last al-

bum, and he's long since missed the perfect marketing window his first year on "Idol" provided. He initially intended to meet with a large group, then settled on a single producer. Things got out of hand as Urban began to see the possibilities.

"As I started working with different people, they'd bring out different things in me," Urban said. "I'd play different for Butch Walker than I would for Dann Huff. I'd sing a little different for Stargate than I would for Jay Joyce. So I thought, 'Let's just keep going on this a little longer.'"

Urban's seventh album still sounds very much like a Keith Urban album. He said his goal wasn't to have Walker write a rock song, but to meld sounds and ideas to update and diversify his music.

"I realize now, particularly after this journey, apparently I love hokey songs," Urban said. "I love choruses. I love guitar riffs. I love particular grooves and rhythms and I like them being prominent. I love acoustic instrumentation fused with electronic-type instruments. I like ballads. I like rockers. I like pop aspects. I like all that stuff. I just

make my record it's all me. If I was to label it, I'd probably say it feels like a progressive cross-over country album, 2014."

Joyce said Urban called and dropped by his Nashville studio for a visit. He was drawn to Urban's energy, and like the singer, he loves to mix things up in the studio.

"It was different because he's really heavily involved, so it really was a lot of pushing and pulling each other to get to this place," said Joyce, who works with artists as diverse as Eric Church, Cage the Elephant and Amos Lee. "And I kind of admire anybody that's willing to push themselves musically and not try to think of it as this record is just a means to keep the train going, making the music be first. I think it's brave."

Urban agrees he could have taken the safe route, but didn't see his approach as much of a gamble.

NEW YORK (AP)—Christina Aguilera says that although she went to Rwanda to help others, she ended up helping herself.

The 32-year-old singer visited Rwanda in June for a hunger relief effort. She said the experience helped her ground herself.

"It came at a time in my life when I really needed to be far removed from anything to do with work or being on camera," the Grammy winner said in a recent interview. "It came at a time in my life when I needed to sort of experience

Aguilera says trip to Rwanda was fulfilling

what's going on with the world beyond entertainment."

Aguilera has been a spokesperson for Yum! Brands' World Hunger Relief effort since 2009, and has also traveled to Haiti and Guatemala. She said being a mother—she has a 5-year-old son Max—made her feel more empathetic for those suffering from hunger around the world.

"It's so sad to think there's nothing that sets any of us

apart," she said. "And when you go into the field, you really see that and feel that we're all one in the same, it's just we're born under different circumstances, and it's sad and I don't understand why, but I feel what I feel and I did what I can."



Aguilera

On her Rwanda trip, "The Voice" mentor served food to children and visited refugee camps, which she called "one of the most difficult moments."

"They had to escape everything and everybody they knew and loved, and it's just a lot to really open yourself up and feel all that," she said, on the brink of tears. "And you just want to help out in whatever way that you can, and obviously I get emotional about it when talking

about it, but I think it's important to feel those things."

Yum! Brands Inc. is the parent company to KFC, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell. The company said its World Hunger Relief effort has raised nearly \$150 million for the United Nations World Food Programme and other organizations since its launch in 2007.

Aguilera's PSA, which debuts Thursday, features her song "Light up the Sky."

She will return for the fifth season of NBC's "The Voice" on Sept. 23.

Former Wayne Newton home in Vegas selling for \$70M

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The lavish estate that was home to “King of Las Vegas” Wayne Newton is on the market for \$70 million.

It’s an eyebrow-raising price tag, but the owners say it’s a property fit for royalty. Indeed, they say they have already fielded inquiries from a noble Saudi Arabian family.

With creditors at his door, Newtown sold the property in 2010 for \$19.5 million to CSD LLC, headed by investors Lacy and Dorothy Harber. He had lived there since 1968.

The 40-acre (16.2-hectare) “Casa de Shenandoah” property several miles (kilometers) southeast of the Las Vegas Strip was listed by Sotheby’s on Monday.

In flusher days, the “Danke Schoen” crooner’s property featured flamingos, South African penguins and Arabian horses. Newtown outfitted it with gold-trimmed doors, serene pools and plush carpeting.



This Nov. 12, 2010, file photo shows Wayne Newton’s home at the end of a tree-lined lane on a 52-acre estate in Las Vegas. AP

In addition to the main mansion, the property includes four homes, 1,500 trees and an exercise pool for horses.

Newton, 71, his family, and a menagerie of exotic animals downsized in June to a \$3 million estate on 20 acres nearby.

Grant Lyon, who is overseeing the property for the Harbers, said the price has risen by \$50 million in part because of the improvements CSD made to the property. The new owners added a 14-car garage, remodeled the horse stables, and removed manure.

Lyon imagines the property will appeal to a wealthy equinophile. It can house 60 horses.

“If someone is an avid horse person and wants to live in Las Vegas but still maintain a level of seclusion and privacy, it’s probably the only property that offers that,” he said.

He said the hope is to find a buyer, likely from abroad, who sees the property as a trophy.

‘Insidious’ sequel scares up box-office success

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Moviegoers had an appetite for fright this weekend, sending “Insidious: Chapter 2” to the top of the box office.

The haunted-house horror sequel debuted in first place with \$41 million, more than tripling the opening take of the 2010 original.

Debuting on Friday the 13th, FilmDistrict’s “Insidious: Chapter 2” scored the highest September opening day ever, said box-office analyst Paul Dergarabedian of Hollywood.com.

“It was a perfect release date for this movie,” he said. “James Wan has cracked the code on making great horror movies.”

The Australian director had another first-place opener earlier this summer with the “The Conjuring,” another haunted-house thriller starring Patrick Wilson. Wilson returns in “Insidious 2,”



This film image released by FilmDistrict shows Danielle Bisutti in a scene from “Insidious: Chapter 2.” AP

playing a husband and father with some scary personal baggage.

FilmDistrict’s president of distribution, Jim Orr, said the film’s ticket sales nearly dou-

bled studio expectations.

“It’s great to be in business with Blumhouse Productions and James Wan,” he said. “They’re just ridiculously talented and de-

livered a phenomenal film.”

Another newcomer, Relativity Media’s Robert De Niro-Michelle Pfeiffer crime caper “The Family,” opened in second

place with \$14.5 million. That bumped last week’s champ, “Riddick,” to third.

The Weinstein Co.’s “Lee Daniels’ The Butler” continued its strong performance with a fourth-place finish that saw North American ticket sales cross the \$100 million mark.

The Jennifer Aniston-Jason Sudeikis Warner Bros. road-trip comedy “We’re the Millers” rounded out the top five.

Both “The Butler” and “We’re the Millers” have been in theaters for more than a month, contributing to a hearty box-office that’s been up the past four consecutive

weeks after a record-breaking summer season.

“These movies have legs week after week, and that’s bolstering the entire marketplace,” Dergarabedian said. “If you just have the brand-new movies doing well and the holdovers are dropping like rocks, then you have a problem.”

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released on Monday.

1. **“Insidious: Chapter 2,”** \$41 million (\$5 million international).
2. **“The Family,”** \$14.5 million.
3. **“Riddick,”** \$7 million (\$9.6 million international).
4. **“Lee Daniels’ The Butler,”** \$5.58 million (\$2.5 million international).
5. **“We’re the Millers,”** \$5.4 million (\$9 million international).
6. **“Instructions Not Included,”** \$4.25 million.
7. **“Planes,”** \$3.06 million (\$10.7 million international).
8. **“One Direction: This Is Us,”** \$2.4 million.
9. **“Elysium,”** \$2.05 million (\$8.5 million international).
10. **“Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters,”** \$1.82 million (\$7.8 million international).

‘Today’ show rebooting with Daly, studio revamp

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC is seeking to reboot the “Today” show by adding Carson Daly, unveiling a new studio set that resembles a “hipster New York City apartment” and a sharper focus gleaned from studies of what viewers and lapsed viewers say they want.

The new look will debut next Monday, and NBC executives offered a studio tour Thursday. But the real work is in the content, and new NBC News President Deborah Turness—just five weeks into her job—has made a “Today” reboot a top priority.

Daly will be stationed in the studio’s new “Orange Room,” where he will provide continual updates on how the show’s stories are trending online and what kind of feedback viewers are offering through social media.

The set’s new anchor desk will be on a revolving platform

that lets “Today” personalities look out over fans peering in through the street-side window. Al Roker has a new 82-inch touch-screen weather display to play with, there’s a new orange couch and all manner of high-def screens and energy-friendly lights.

“We think it’s an incredibly warm and inviting place,” Turness said. “We feel like it’s somebody’s home—our home.”

The well-publicized problems at “Today” are part of the reason Turness was brought from England for the job. The once-dominant morning show had its 852-week winning streak—that’s 17 years—broken by ABC’s “Good Morning America” last year. “GMA” now has a streak of its own, winning last week for the 55th week in a row. The “Today” daily audience of 4.57 million last week was 743,000 behind ABC, the Nielsen company said.



Daly

Despite the change in fortunes, NBC says its studies have shown that only 10 percent of “Today” viewers who have abandoned the show over the past few years have turned to “Good Morning America” instead.

“Today” is devoting itself to a mission statement that involves substance, making connections with viewers and offering people who watch some-

thing uplifting, Turness said. She pointed to stories in recent weeks involving Bradley Manning’s sex change, interrogation footage of Cleveland kidnapper Ariel Castro and Matt Lauer’s interviews with Paula Deen and Alex Rodriguez’s lawyer.

“We are a news show,” Turness said. “I’ll say it again. We are a news show.”

At the same time, she said the show’s promise is that “even in the darkness, we will seek the light.” She mentioned how Lauer was on the scene when the spire of the One World Trade Center tower was put into place.

Besides the studio, some of the other changes are cosmetic, and reference back to the show’s history. With a sunrise in its logo, NBC stations across the country are putting cameras on the roof to catch video of the sun rising and “Today” is asking viewers to send in their

own sunrise pictures to show on the air.

Lauer said that the mission statement and tightening of the show’s focus is appreciated. “We were occupying too wide a space for a while,” he said.

The show is using relevance as a standard for the stories it puts on the air, “and that’s much different from ‘buzzy,’” he said.

Lauer, who has teamed with co-host Savannah Guthrie for more than a year now, would not say how long he wanted to stay with the show. He said the changes, which Turness has overseen with executive producer Don Nash, has made things more exciting.

“The new direction of the show is something that has me more invigorated than I have been in a long time,” he said.

Daly’s addition adds uncertainty to the future of his “Last Call” late night show. NBC’s entertainment division said it has no plans to cancel the show and is figuring out a transition plan.

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MORTAL INSTRUMENTS 3D [CC] (PG-13)
Tue. - Wed. (405 PM) 705 PM

LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER [CC] (NR)
Tue. - Wed. (400 PM) 700 PM

PLANES [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed. (445 PM) 710 PM

PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed. 725 PM

PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS 3D [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed. (425 PM)

Times For 09/17 - 09/18 © 2013 www.REGmovies.com

Billboard names Pink woman of the year

Billboard has named Pink its woman of the year.

Billboard announced Monday that the pop singer will

receive the honor at its annual Women In Music event Dec. 10 in New York City.

Pink's sixth album, "The

Truth About Love," has sold 1.7 million albums since it was released last year. It launched three Top 10 hits, including the No. 1 jam "Just Give Me a Reason."

Past recipients of Billboard's

woman of the year award include Beyonce, Katy Perry and Taylor Swift.

Pink is currently on her international "The Truth About Love Tour." (AP)



'12 Years a Slave' voted fan favorite in Toronto

TORONTO (AP)—"12 Years a Slave," has won the audience award at the Toronto International Film Festival, building Oscar momentum for Steve McQueen's unblinking portrait of slavery in 1840s America.

McQueen's film beat out first runner-up "Philomena," directed by fellow Brit Stephen Frears, and second runner-up "Prisoners," directed by Quebec's Denis Villeneuve.

Following the announcement Sunday, festival head Piers Han-

dling suggested this was the beginning of many prestigious accolades for the sweeping drama.

"The King's Speech," "Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire" and "Slumdog Millionaire" all went on to multiple Academy Award nominations and wins after being crowned most popular in Toronto.

Every best picture winner since 2007 has played at the 11-day Toronto International Film Festival, which wrapped up Sunday.

Carlos Santana escapes unharmed in Vegas accident

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Police say Carlos Santana drove into an unoccupied parked car near an upscale area of Las Vegas, but escaped injury.

The Grammy-winning superstar was headed home alone when the accident occurred Friday night in Summerlin.

Police Lt. Ken Romane told the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* that it's uncertain whether a sobriety field test was conducted, but Santana was not driving under the influence.

Romane did not know the make of Santana's vehicle or the extent of damage to it and the parked car. Romane said the accident was "minor."

According to his concert schedule, the 66-year-old Santana performed on Thursday and Saturday nights but not on Friday night.

Santana has won 15 Grammys and is best known for the album "Supernatural," which has sold more than 25 million copies.

Phylicia Rashad takes on directing role

WASHINGTON (AP)—Phylicia Rashad is best known for starring roles on stage and television, but as a director she decided to commemorate a historic moment that helped spur the civil rights movement.

The Tony Award-winning actress directed a reading of the play "Four Little Girls: Birmingham 1963" at the Kennedy Center Sunday to mark the 50th anniversary of the bombing at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. Four girls were killed in the explosion, which was set by white supremacists and helped spur passage of landmark civil rights legislation.

Rashad, who is recognized

for her portrayal as the matriarch on "The Cosby Show" TV series and Broadway's "A Raisin in the Sun," said she wanted the reading to emphasize the "sanctity of joy, human existence and the value of all life."

The play, written by Christina Ham, starred students from Howard University and the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, D.C.

Rashad, an alumna of Howard University, said acting and directing are both challenging and rewarding. In her role as director, Rashad said she works to keep the creative energy in line with the writer's vision, "while leaving room for people to add to the vision in a collaborative effort."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

After delay, Italy loans Israel Botticelli work

JERUSALEM (AP)—An aide to Israel's culture minister says Italy will loan a Botticelli masterpiece to Israel as scheduled, after delaying the loan over worries about Syria. Italy's culture ministry said this month it would not send the 15th-century "The Annunciation of San Martino alla Scala" to the Israel Museum in Jerusalem due to geopolitical and logistical considerations. But Meir Bardugo, aide to Culture Minister Limor Livnat, said Sunday that the minister worked "behind the scenes intensively" to convince Italy the work would be safe. The head of the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Antonio Natali, told the ANSA news agency on Saturday that the work had left Italy a few days ago bound for Jerusalem. Israel Museum Director James Snyder said Sunday that the four-month exhibit will open Tuesday.

V&A Museum buys working gun made on 3-D printer

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Victoria & Albert Museum says it has bought a working gun made on a 3-D printer, which

sparked alarm among anti-firearms campaigners when it was unveiled in the United States. The museum says the gun is an addition to its collection of "new, influential, innovative or experimental" contemporary design. The "Liberator" gun was developed by University of Texas law student Cody Wilson, and made from plastic components created on a 3-D printer. Wilson fired the gun in May, and posted blueprints online, sparking a debate about potential uses of the machines, which pump out layers of plastics, metal and other materials to create 3-D objects with moving parts. The museum said Sunday it had acquired two Liberator prototypes, a disassembled gun and a number of archive items.

Music producer killed by gun shots in Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)—A Jamaican music producer who worked with top dancehall reggae acts has been found shot to death in his car in Jamaica's capital. Police say the body of Patrick "Roach" Samuels was discovered inside his Chevrolet Avalanche early Sunday. There have been no arrests. Investigators say Samuels was attending

a house party in the capital of Kingston when he went outside to use his phone. Partygoers reported hearing several gunshots and they later found Samuels' body slumped behind the wheel of his parked car. The 46-year-old Samuels and Justus Arison founded JA Productions company, which created the popular "Overproof" rhythm. The company has had hits by several dancehall acts including Mavado. Samuels also worked with dancehall reggae stars Sean Paul and Vybz Kartel.

Miss America pageant underway in Atlantic City

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (AP)—The 2014 Miss America pageant is underway in Atlantic City—the place where it all began in 1921. The nationally televised pageant is back in Boardwalk Hall, and judges Sunday night will choose a winner to succeed the current title-holder Mallory Hagan. Her reign is being cut short because the pageant left Las Vegas, where it had been held the past six years and where a winner was selected each January. The pageant pits 53 contestants—one from each state,

plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands—in swimsuit, evening gown, talent and interview competitions. The winner will be crowned around 11 p.m. (0300 GMT Monday)

A new US polygamous family on reality TV

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Brady Williams has five wives, 24 children but no organized religion. The newest polygamous family from Utah on reality TV considers itself progressive and independent. Williams and his wives slowly withdrew from the fundamentalist Mormon church in their rural community outside of Salt Lake City during the mid-2000s after re-evaluating their core beliefs. The family no longer teaches the tenants of fundamental Mormonism to their children at home, opting instead to take from other teachings such as Buddhism to instill values in their children. The family is bracing for newfound attention now that TLC has debuted the one-hour special about the family, called "My Five Wives." The show, which airs again Monday night, could turn into a full series depending on ratings.

Volatile younger sister must reach out for help on her own

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: My younger sister, "Tanya," is 22 and a single mother. Her son is 2. She's pregnant again, and this time her baby will be a girl.

My sister is very dramatic and emotional. She gets angry easily and has a short fuse. She's great with her son, except he picks up on her drama and is somewhat dramatic himself. My worry is that girls are more likely to imitate that behavior, and

I'm concerned my niece will be just like her mother. Although Tanya has a good heart, her emotional issues have caused her to have horrible relationships with men, as our mother did.

When I suggested to my sister that she talk to someone about her anger, she flipped out on me. We were both sexually abused as children. I have dealt with those issues and she has not. Was I rude to suggest she see someone about her emotional problems?

JUST TRYING TO HELP

DEAR TRYING TO HELP: Suggesting that Tanya discuss this with a professional wasn't rude; it was a loving thing to do. Your sister reacted defensively because she isn't ready to admit she needs help.

What you must do is hope that one day she will be receptive, but also accept that it may never happen. Not everyone is strong enough to face the fact that they need help or willing to reach out for it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: How does a person quit being a quitter? At 46, I have realized that this is what I am. I have quit everything—church, jobs, school. If I don't like a friend, I just drop the person. The same goes for books, exercise—everything! How do you stop the lifelong habit of quitting?

QUITTER IN CHARLESTON

DEAR CHARLESTON: I hate to see you give yourself a pejorative label. It's time to have yourself evaluated because it is possible you suffer from attention deficit disorder—and if you do, there is help for it.

If that's not the case, then start small, give yourself a goal you CAN accomplish and don't stop until you have reached it. It doesn't have to be anything complicated, but see it through. Then give yourself another, more difficult assignment and finish it.

Perseverance is a skill that can be learned. Each time you succeed, you will reinforce the idea that you CAN do it. The more you do this, the better you will feel about yourself, and it will be reflected in your work and social relationships.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am a married woman with several single friends. They are always eager to do things with me, but married life is a lot different than being single. I'd love to connect these friends, who don't know each other. I realize making friends can be hard, and I'd love to help them in that way.

What would be the best way to do this? I don't have a lot of time to spend inviting everyone together and having them get to know each other. I'd like to do a quick introduction, then let them go have fun doing "single people" things. Is this possible?

UNIFIER IN PITTSBURGH

DEAR UNIFIER: Absolutely. Call or email your friends and tell them there are people you want them to meet because you think they'd enjoy each other. Then arrange a group lunch at a convenient location and introduce them. After that, if the chemistry is right, they'll become friendly.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

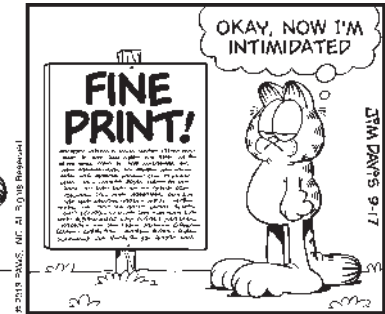
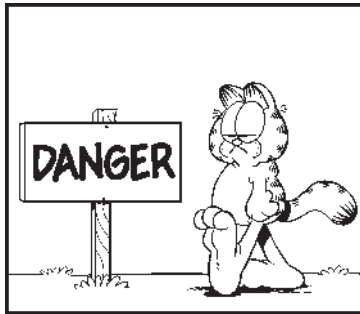
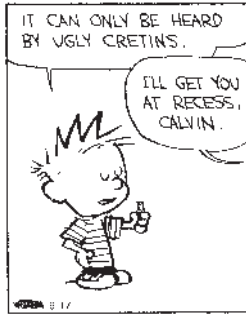
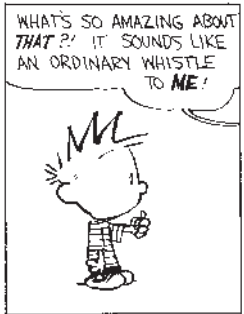
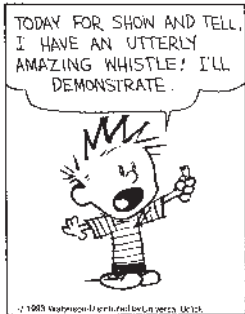
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

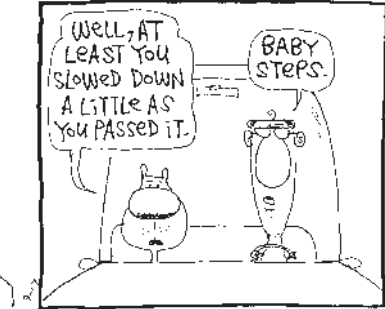
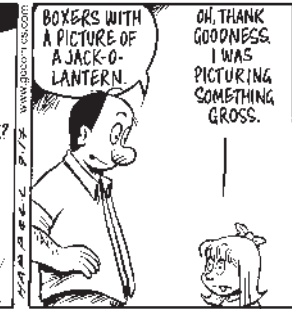


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 Little devil 39 Varnish ingredient 40 Muscat dweller 43 New Orleans nickname 47 Dartmouth team 49 Verifiable remarks? 50 Reverberate 51 Tibetan critter 52 Count counter-part 53 Affirmative votes 54 Type measures 55 First victim

DOWN 1 "Dagnet" star Jack 2 Super-berry 3 Assault with a grenade 4 Skirmish 5 Jazz style 6 Leave out 7 Annoy 8 Settled a debt 9 European range 10 Cronies 11 Other people 17 Enthusiastic, plus 19 Owns 22 Spot on a domino 23 Recede 24 Island neckwear

25 What couch potatoes do 26 Satchel 27 Conger, for one 28 Piercing tool 29 Grant opponent 31 Econ. statistic 34 Five-in-a-row wins 35 Eastern potentate (Var.) 36 Periodical, for short 37 Summer-time quencher 39 Chain components 40 Do as you're told 41 Cinderella's horses 42 Turkish title 43 Lentil, e.g. 44 Speedy steed 45 Foolproof 46 Holler 48 CBS logo

Solution time: 21 mins.

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | O | A | F | C | P | A | O | P | E | R |
| A | G | R | A | H | E | R | P | E | L | E |
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| N | E | A | H | B | Y | S | T | O | L | E |
| O | R | E | S | S | U | M | | | | |
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| W | O | O | N | I | O | N | L | E | A | |
| E | V | I | L | E | N | T | A | I | L | E |
| L | A | G | E | T | T | A | | | | |
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| E | T | R | E | A | G | O | I | S | L | E |
| T | O | Y | S | R | O | T | C | O | E | D |

Yesterday's answer 9-17

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jimmie Johnson, 38; Constantine Maroulis, 38; Doug E. Fresh, 47; Kyle Chandler, 48.

Happy Birthday: Do your own thing. Present what you have to offer with confidence. Be willing to make compromises and be open to suggestions in order to seal a deal. Good fortune can be yours if you use your imagination. A new beginning will lift your spirits and give you greater incentive to expand your goals. Your numbers are 7, 12, 16, 24, 37, 41, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Discuss important issues with colleagues and make adjustments according to the information you receive. Stick to whatever decision you agree upon and postpone expanding until you are sure you can handle what's already expected of you. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The knowledge and experience you gain through helping others will help you in your personal and business life. Last-minute plans to travel should be reconsidered. Unexpected difficulties are likely to lead to delays. Express your feelings. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep personal information a secret. Put a price on what you do and have to offer, or someone will try to get you to work for nothing. Speak up and make adjustments that will ensure that you get what you want. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): What you do for someone special will speak volumes about the way you feel. Love and romance are highlighted, and being romantic will

make a positive impact on your day. Short trips will enhance your life. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Find out as much information as possible so that you can maintain control. Expect someone to put demands on your time. Do your best to deal with chores so you can move on to more lucrative and interesting pastimes. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Broaden your vision by interacting with people from unusual backgrounds. What you discover will enable you to have a fresh outlook on an old idea, plan or project. Love is in the stars, and sharing romantic plans will improve your personal life. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Share your thoughts, beliefs and the things you enjoy doing with someone who has similar interests. Fixing up your home may meet with opposition from someone who has alternative ideas or plans. Find a way to compromise before you begin. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Slow down and don't allow anyone to push you into something you don't care to do. Follow whatever path you feel most comfortable with, and you will satisfy your curiosity and discover a skill or talent you didn't realize you had. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): An emotional situation will cause you grief if you aren't honest about the way you feel. Don't commit to do something unless you plan to follow through. A loss of reputation will cost you when you want a favor or help. **

EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't hesitate to move forward, even if it is at someone else's expense. You mustn't feel guilty when it's time to collect what's owed to you. Plan to celebrate your good fortune with someone you love. Nurture important relationships. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Follow through with any promise you make, or you will be questioned. Find an interest and develop your skills. Being prepared will ensure that you can make positive changes to the way you earn a living. Focus on financial, legal and medical matters. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotions coupled with creativity and passion will all lead to an interesting day with plenty of memories. Expand your friendships or romance someone special to you. Live in the moment and do your best to enjoy every experience you encounter. ***

Birthday Baby: You are inventive, a humanitarian and reformist. You can make a difference. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | 2 | | | 1 | 5 | | 9 | | | |
| | | | 1 | 8 | | 7 | 5 | | | |
| | | | 8 | | | | 2 | | | |
| 8 | 1 | | | | | | | 4 | | |
| 3 | | | | 8 | | | | | 7 | |
| | 6 | | | | | | | 8 | 5 | |
| | | 2 | | | | | 9 | | | |
| | | 9 | 2 | | 3 | 4 | | | | |
| 8 | | 5 | 4 | | | | | 3 | | |

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 3 |
| 4 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 9 |
| 1 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| 9 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| 7 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 4 |
| 5 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 6 |
| 6 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 2 |

Difficulty Level ★★ 9/17
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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

WORD ROUNDUP (DAILY PUZZLE) Solution: 13 letters

S N O I T I D E V L O S P E L
U Z C O M P L E T E E R F G A
E R O C S D E S P A L E M N T
L Z L E S S U B M I T W E E N
B T N E C R E P E S S S M L O
U C O R R E C T K M E N B L Z
O C D E E O C N C T I A E A I
D L I M E E U T L I S T R H R
R O A A N R G O R K C E H C O
O C G N E N A R E A D L B E H
W K O K I D L O C A T E S I M G
S C N Y F E A T U R E S I A A
S I A E T J E F F I N A L G R
A L L L E P S D N E T Y O H D
P C R O S S W O R D A V I D Y

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Yesterday's Answer: Grapevine
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WHATZIT Solution: More haste, less speed

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|-----------|---------|-----------------------------|
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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Red Sox win 9-2, eliminate NY from AL East race



BOSTON
(AP)—Clay Buchholz allowed two hits over six innings to improve to 11-0 and Daniel Nava had four hits to lead the Boston Red Sox to a 9-2 victory over New York on Sunday night and eliminate the Yankees from the AL East race.

Boston leads second-place Tampa Bay by 9½ games with a magic number of four to clinch its second division title since 1995. The Yankees trail the Rays and Texas Rangers by three in the wild-card standings, with Cleveland and Baltimore also ahead of them in the race.

The Yankees had won the last two division titles and 13 of the last 17.

In his second start since coming off the disabled list, Buchholz walked four and struck out three and allowed only one unearned run.

Shortly after a pregame ceremony to honor Yankees closer Mariano Rivera in his last scheduled trip to Fenway Park, Mike Napoli hit a two-run homer off Ivan Nova (8-5) to make it 3-1 in the first inning.

Twins 6, Rays 4

In Minneapolis, Joel Peralta gave up a solo homer to Ryan Doumit in the eighth inning and a three-run drive to Jostin Pinto as Tampa Bay stumbled again in the AL wild-card race with a loss to Minnesota.

Tampa Bay, which had won its previous three games, wasted a 3-0 lead and dropped to 7-14 from Aug. 25 on. The Rays remained tied with Texas for the two AL wild-card spots, a half-game ahead of Cleveland.

Minnesota had lost 11 in a row to the Rays.

Tampa Bay led 4-2 in the eighth, but Peralta (2-8) blew a save for the third time in four chances. After Doumit's 13th home run of the season, Trevor Plouffe singled and Josh Willingham walked. Pinto then sent an 0-1 pitch into the Rays bullpen in center field, the rookie's second career homer.

Indians 7, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Nick Swisher homered from both sides of the plate for the 13th time, Asdrubal Cabrera hit a three-run homer as Cleveland beat Chicago to pull within a half-game of Tampa Bay and Texas in the AL wild-card race.

In a game that started after a rain delay of 4 hours, 28 minutes, the Indians achieved a franchise first by sweeping a four-game series from the White Sox for the third time in a season.

Zach McAllister (8-9) allowed one run and six hits in 6 2-3 innings with five strikeouts and a walk.

Last-place Chicago has lost six in a row, and at 58-91 is 33 games under .500 for the first time since finishing 1976 with a 64-97 record, according to STATS.

Chris Sale (11-13) gave up six runs and nine hits—including three homers—in 5 2-3 innings and dropped to 6-11 following a 5-2 start. He has an 8.61

Tigers 3, Royals 2

In Detroit, Alex Avila homered twice, including a tiebreaking solo shot in the eighth inning that lifted Detroit over Kansas City.

Detroit's Max Scherzer struck out 12 in seven innings, but he was denied his 20th victory when Kansas City tied



Boston Red Sox's Clay Buchholz delivers a pitch against the New York Yankees in the first inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park, in Boston, Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013. AP

it off Drew Smyly (6-0) in the eighth. Avila answered in the bottom half with a homer to right-center.

Joaquin Benoit pitched the ninth for his 20th save in 20 chances for the AL Central-leading Tigers.

Jeremy Guthrie (14-11) pitched all eight innings for the Royals, who remained 3½ games back in the AL wild-card race.

Avila's first homer was a two-run shot in the second. Alex Gordon hit a solo homer for Kansas City in the fourth.

Athletics 5, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Texas, Josh Donaldson, Chris Young and Josh Reddick all homered as AL West-leading Oakland completed a three-game sweep of chasing and slumping Texas.

Oakland took a commanding 6½-game division lead with two weeks left after the final regular-season series between the AL West's top two teams. The A's have won five in a row and 13 of 16 overall.

Texas is 2-11 in September after beginning the month with a two-game division lead. The Rangers lost their sixth in row, all at home—this was their first winless homestand of at least six games since moving to Texas in 1972.

The Rangers and Tampa Bay are tied for the two AL wild-card spots in a rapidly tightening race. Texas starts a four-game series at Tropicana Field on Monday.

Angels 2, Astros 1

In Houston, Jerome Williams won a third straight start for the first time since April 2004 as Los Angeles sent Houston to its 98th loss of the season.

Houston, a big league-worst 51-98, is on the verge of becoming the first major league team to reach triple figures in losses in three consecutive seasons since Kansas City from 2004-06. The Astros were 56-106 in 2011 and dropped to 55-107 last year, their final season in the National League.

Josh Hamilton had an RBI triple in the first off Paul Clemens (4-5), a drive of the glove of center fielder Brandon Barnes as he went up Tal's Hill. Mike Trout had reached with his AL-leading 100th walk.

Andrew Romine hit a sacrifice fly in the fifth after singles by Erick Aybar and Hank Conger.

Orioles 3, Blue Jays 1

In Toronto, Miguel Gonzalez pitched 5 1-3 innings before leaving with a strained right groin, Danny Valencia hit a two-run double as Baltimore beat Toronto.

The Orioles, who came in 3½ games behind Tampa Bay and Texas in the AL wild-card race, won their first road series since taking two of three at San Francisco on Aug. 9-11.

Baltimore slugger Chris Davis, who hit his 50th home run of the season Friday, went 0 for 3 and struck out twice. He also drove in a run with a bases-loaded walk.

Pirates 3, Cubs 2

In Pittsburgh, Francisco Liriano took a no-hit bid into the seventh inning before faltering in his first no-decision this season, and pinch-hitter Justin Morneau singled in the go-ahead run in the eighth to lead the Pittsburgh Pirates over the Chicago Cubs.

Pittsburgh remained tied with St.

Louis for the NL Central lead after taking three of four from the last-place Cubs and winning for the sixth time in seven games.

Morneau, acquired from Minnesota on Aug. 31, drove in his first run for the Pirates. The 2006 AL MVP is batting .279 (12 for 43) with Pittsburgh.

With the score 2-2 in the eighth, Andrew McCutchen was hit by a pitch from Pedro Strop (2-2), took second on Marlon Byrd's bloop single to center and scored on Morneau's single.

Kyle Farnsworth (1-0) pitched a scoreless eighth, and Mark Melancon completed a three-hitter with a perfect ninth for his 16th save in 18 chances.

Cardinals 12, Mariners 2

In St. Louis, Yadier Molina broke out of a slump with a home run and three singles as Shelby Miller and St. Louis remained tied for first place in the NL Central by beating Seattle in an inter-league matchup.

Matt Adams also homered as St. Louis won for the seventh time in nine games and kept pace with Pittsburgh. Both teams are 87-62 with 13 games remaining.

Miller (14-9) gave up one earned run and three hits in five innings. He became the first St. Louis rookie to reach 14 wins in a season since Dick Hughes won 16 in 1967.

Molina's second-inning homer off Erasmo Ramirez (5-2) snapped an 0-for-15 skid. Molina scored three times and raised his batting average to .317.

Brewers 6, Reds 5

In Milwaukee, Sean Halton hit a solo homer with one out in the bottom of the ninth inning to lift Milwaukee to the comeback victory over Cincinnati.

Halton's home run came off reliever Zach Duke (1-2), the fifth Cincinnati pitcher. It was Halton's third homer of the season and first career walk-off.

Jean Segura sparked a rally with a two-run triple and Carlos Gomez made a game-saving catch for Milwaukee, which dealt a blow to the Reds' pursuit of the NL Central title. The Brewers entered the eighth trailing 5-2. Segura's hit came after Reds relievers walked the first two batters of the inning. Jonathan Lucroy followed with a sacrifice fly to tie it.

Jim Henderson (4-5) pitched a scoreless inning in relief to pick up the win.

Gomez robbed Jay Bruce of what would have been a three-run homer in the ninth when he extended over the center field fence with two outs.

Nationals 11, Phillies 2

In Washington, Wilson Ramos had four hits and five RBIs, Jordan Zimmermann pitched seven innings for his NL-best 18th win as Washington kept up its late playoff push by routing Philadelphia.

Denard Span extended his hitting streak to 26 games, Bryce Harper hit a pair of doubles and a single and scored three times, and every player in the Nationals' starting lineup had at least one hit.

Washington, which began the day 5½ games behind Cincinnati for the NL's second wild-card berth, has won eight of nine and 25 of 35.

Zimmerman (18-8) scattered seven hits and single runs in the second and third innings with seven strikeouts.

Giants, 4, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Hunter Pence hit two

more home runs and pinch-hitter Brett Pill connected for a tiebreaking shot leading off the eighth inning as San Francisco beat Los Angeles.

Pinch-hitter Yasiel Puig grounded out with the bases loaded to end the game. The NL West-leading Dodgers lost three of four to San Francisco, and the magic number to clinch their first division title since 2009 remained at four after second-place Arizona won.

Pence has 19 RBIs in six games. He drove in three a day after his grand slam and career-high seven RBIs led the Giants to a 19-3 rout at Dodger Stadium.

Jean Machi (3-1) pitched one inning. Sergio Romo closed for his 35th save in 39 chances.

Paco Rodriguez (3-3) gave up Pill's homer.

Diamondbacks 8, Rockies 2

In Phoenix, Paul Goldschmidt homered and went 4 for 4, driving in career high-tying five runs to lead Arizona past Colorado.

Colorado star Todd Helton did not play, a day after announcing he would retire at the end of this season. The crowd at Chase Field cheered him early in the game and he waved his cap in appreciation.

Goldschmidt had an RBI single in the first inning, hit a two-run homer in the third and added a two-run double in the fourth, all against Jhoulys Chacin (13-9).

Goldschmidt leads the NL with 114 RBIs.

Randall Delgado (5-6) allowed two runs and five hits in six innings for the Diamondbacks, who won have won three of four.

Padres 4, Braves 0

In Atlanta, Burch Smith struck out 10 in seven innings to earn his first major league victory, and Chase Headley and Tommy Medica homered, as San Diego beat Atlanta.

The Braves lead the NL East by 10 games over Washington. Atlanta opens a three-game series at Nationals Park on Monday night, and can clinch the division by winning twice there.

Smith (1-1) held the Braves hitless until pitcher Julio Teheran singled to lead off the sixth.

Smith allowed three hits and walked two. The rookie made his fifth career start—he had a 12.41 ERA in his previous starts. He struck out seven of the first 13 Atlanta batters.

Teheran (12-8) gave up seven hits, four runs, no walks and struck out six in 6 2-3 innings.

Mets 1, Marlins 0, 12 innings

In New York, slumping rookie Travis d'Arnaud hit a winning single with two outs in the 12th inning, lifting New York over Florida.

Dillon Gee and Tom Koehler took a pitchers' duel into the eighth inning before the Marlins and Mets each used five relievers to finish off the fifth extra-inning matchup this season between the NL East's worst teams.

D'Arnaud came through in a game of many missed opportunities after the two previous batters grounded into forceouts at the plate. New York had loaded the bases with no outs against Zach Phillips (0-1), making his third appearance for the Marlins.

Vic Black (1-0) pitched a perfect 12th inning for his first career win.

Rodgers has big day, Packers beat Redskins, 38-20



GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—Aaron Rodgers' big day was too much for the Washington Redskins.

Rodgers was 34 of 42 for a career-high 480 yards and four touchdowns, and James Jones had 11 catches for a career-best 178 yards in a 38-20 victory Sunday.

Robert Griffin III threw for 320 yards and three touchdowns for the Redskins, but most of that came in the second half with the Packers ahead by three TDs.

James Starks had 132 yards rushing and a touchdown. Randall Cobb added nine catches for 128 yards and a 35-yard touchdown on a crossing route for a 10-0 lead on a fourth-and-3 play in the first quarter to make it 10-0.

Rodgers added touchdown passes to Jordy Nelson and Jermichael Finley in the second quarter. The Packers led 24-0 at the half, and Rodgers already had 335 yards passing.

Green Bay (1-1) bounced back after a season-opening loss at San Francisco.

The Redskins (0-2) will need to regroup again after getting off to a slow start for a second straight week.

Last week, the Redskins fell behind 26-7 at halftime before rallying in the second half in a 33-27 loss to the Eagles.

Griffin, in the second game of his much-anticipated return from right knee surgery, looked OK but didn't resemble the quarterback who confounded defenses last year.

The Packers' defense threw a couple of different wrinkles, including a sack on a blitz by reserve cornerback Davon House.

Griffin's most memorable play of the first half might have been when his helmet flew off while being tackled by Green Bay linebackers Clay Matthews and A.J. Hawk.

Griffin finished 26 of 40 for 320 yards and three touchdowns, and carried four times for a yard.

The Redskins got on the board after Griffin connected with receiver Pierre Garcon for a 6-yard touchdown pass. The play held up on review after the official ruled Garcon extended his hand over the goal line with the ball before running out of bounds.

The score made it 31-7 with 4:15 left in the third quarter.

Garcon finished with eight catches for 143 yards against a Packers defense playing again without injured safety Morgan Burnett. Alfred Morris had 13 carries for 107 yards for Washington.

The Redskins also had a couple of other good drives into Green Bay territory. But they were foiled by a missed 50-yard field goal by John Potter.

The Packers' Mike Neal intercepted Griffin after receiver Josh Morgan lost his grip on the ball after being hit by Matthews.

Early on, it was the Redskins administering the big hits.

Rodgers was sacked on consecutive plays inside the 18 by Ryan Kerrigan on the game's first series, and the Packers had to settle for a field goal. He was sacked on the first play of his next series by Brian Orapko.

Things looked shaky again on the third series after facing fourth down at the Redskins 35. But Rodgers found Cobb for the score and the Packers' offense got on track.

Starks had the first 100-yard rushing game for a Packer since Brandon Jackson ran for 115 at Washington on Oct.



Washington Redskins' Josh Wilson sacks Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers during the second half of an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013, in Green Bay, Wis.

10, 2010.

Losing starting running back Eddie Lacy to a concussion didn't slow down the running game. The rookie from Alabama got knocked out after an apparent helmet-to-helmet hit by Redskins safety Brandon Meriweather.

Making his season debut after sitting out last week with a groin injury, Meriweather left the game with a concussion after another apparent helmet-to-helmet hit at the sideline on Starks in the second quarter.

Chargers 33, Eagles 30

In Philadelphia, Philip Rivers threw three touchdown passes to Eddie Royal, and Nick Novak kicked a 46-yard field goal with 7 seconds left, spoiling Chip Kelly's home debut.

Michael Vick threw for a career-best 428 yards and two touchdowns and ran for a score. But a porous Eagles defense couldn't stop Rivers all day.

He finished 36 of 47 for 419 yards, and the Chargers punted only once. They fumbled twice inside Philadelphia's 10 in the first half.

The teams combined for 1,150 total yards, including 539 for San Diego.

Bears 31, Vikings 30

In Chicago, Jay Cutler threw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Martellus Bennett with 10 seconds left.

Minnesota's Blair Walsh had just kicked a 22-yard field goal with 3:15 remaining when Chicago took over at its 34. Cutler, who led the

Bears back from an 11-point deficit in a season-opening win over Cincinnati, struck again.

A 23-yard pass to Bennett along the sideline put the ball on the 16. Cutler then spiked the ball before connecting with Bennett in the front corner of the end zone. Chicago remained unbeaten under new coach Marc Trestman despite committing four turnovers.

Cutler completed 28 of 39 passes for 290 yards and three touchdowns. But he was also intercepted twice and got stripped by Jared Allen on a sack, leading to a 61-yard touchdown return for Brian Robison in the second quarter.

Chiefs 17, Cowboys 16

In Kansas City, Missouri, Alex Smith threw for 223 yards and two touchdowns, and the Kansas City defense held when it needed to in the fourth quarter.

Jamaal Charles ran for 55 yards and caught a touchdown pass for the Chiefs, who made new coach Andy Reid a winner in his home debut. The Chiefs also matched their victory total from all of last season by starting 2-0 for just the second time since 2005.

Dwayne Bowe's touchdown catch in the third quarter and Ryan Succop's 40-yard field goal early in the fourth gave the Chiefs a 17-13 lead. The Cowboys (1-1) answered with a deep march into Kansas City territory but had to settle for Dan Bailey's 53-yard field goal with 3:55 left.

The Chiefs offense never gave the Cowboys a chance to mount a winning drive.

Texans 30, Titans 24, OT

In Houston, rookie DeAndre Hopkins caught a 3-yard touchdown pass in overtime to cap Houston's comeback win.

With Andre Johnson out after being shaken up in the fourth quarter, Hopkins reached above Jason McCourty and pulled in the pass from Matt Schaub to give Houston the victory.

The Texans (2-0) needed a franchise-record 21-point comeback to win their opener at San Diego 31-28.

On Sunday, they charged back from an eight-point, fourth-quarter deficit against the Titans (1-1).

Arian Foster's 1-yard touchdown and 2-point conversion tied it at 24-24 with less than two minutes left.

Houston forced a punt and got within field goal range after that. But Randy Bullock's 46-yard field goal attempt bounced off the left upright to force overtime. It was his third miss of the day.

Bills 24, Panthers 23

In Orchard Park, New York, rookie EJ Manuel hit Stevie Johnson for a 2-yard touchdown pass with 2 seconds left.

The touchdown capped a nine-play, 80-yard drive in which the first-round draft pick completed 6 of 8 attempts for 51 yards. Manuel also got help on third-and-6 from Carolina's 29, when Panthers linebacker Luke Kuechly was

penalized for pass interference with 14 seconds left.

Two plays later, Manuel found Johnson alone in the left corner as Buffalo (1-1) bounced back from a 23-21 season-opening loss to New England.

The Panthers (0-2) lost yet another close game. They were coming off a 12-7 loss to Seattle last week and have now dropped to 2-14 in games decided by 7 points or less in two-plus seasons under coach Ron Rivera.

Dolphins 24, Colts 20

In Indianapolis, Ryan Tannehill threw for 319 yards and one touchdown, and the Dolphins defense held off yet another Colts comeback bid.

Charles Clay gave Miami the lead for good with a 1-yard TD run late in the third quarter. The Dolphins are 2-0 for only the second time since 2004.

Indianapolis (1-1) lost at home for the first time in 12 months and only the second time in Andrew Luck's brief NFL career.

Luck had the Colts positioned to rally yet again after reaching the Miami 23-yard line with 1:45 left in the game.

But this time, Luck threw three straight incompletions and then could not evade the Dolphins pass rush on fourth down, allowing Miami to run out the clock.

Tannehill finished 23 of 34.

Luck was 25 of 43 for 321 yards with one TD and one interception.

Falcons 31, Rams 24

In Atlanta, Julio Jones hauled in 11 passes for 182 yards, including an 81-yard touchdown, and Atlanta held on for its first win of the season.

Matt Ryan threw for 374 yards and two scores despite taking quite a beating behind the Falcons' shaky offense line. Jason Snelling clinched it for the Falcons (1-1) with an 11-yard touchdown run with 6:18 remaining — Atlanta's longest play of the day on the ground.

The Rams (1-1) fell behind 21-0 when Osi Umenyiora returned an interception 68 yards for a touchdown early in the second quarter. Atlanta led 24-3 at halftime before St. Louis fought back on a pair of short touchdown passes by Sam Bradford.

Bradford finished with 352 yards and three TDs.

Ravens 14, Browns 6

In Baltimore, Baltimore sacked Brandon Weeden five times before finally knocking him out of the game in the fourth quarter.

After yielding 49 points in a season-opening loss at Denver, Baltimore's defense came up with a redemptive performance against the Browns (0-2). Cleveland failed to score in the second half and managed only 85 yards over the final 30 minutes.

Weeden left with a thumb injury with just over three minutes left and was replaced by Jason Campbell, who could not move the team.

Down 6-0 at halftime, the Ravens (1-1) took the lead on a 5-yard run by Bernard Pierce with 5:13 left in the third quarter. Baltimore added a touchdown with 8:77 remaining on a 5-yard pass from Flacco to rookie Marlon Brown.

Ravens running back Ray Rice left early in the fourth quarter with an apparent hip injury.

LeBron's wedding both posh and private

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER



LeBron James wanted his wedding day to be perfect and private.

It appears he got both.

With guests dining on a five-course dinner, prefaced by plenty of appetizers and all done under incredibly tight security, the Miami Heat star married his longtime partner Savannah Brinson on Saturday night at a posh resort in San Diego. Guests had their phones taken away for the ceremony and reception in an effort to ensure that no photos or details leaked out.

"A first-class affair," said one of the guests, who spoke to The

Associated Press on condition of anonymity Sunday because the couple had yet to reveal any details of the event themselves. "Ceremony was short and sweet."

Many members of the Heat organization were there, including Dwyane Wade, Chris Bosh, managing general partner Micky Arison and coach Erik Spoelstra. Wade and girlfriend Gabrielle Union posted images of themselves dressed for the occasion on social media, as did Bosh and his wife Adrienne. Some of James' longtime friends were also in attendance, including his manager Maverick Carter.

"What a wonderful evening!!" Adrienne Bosh wrote on Twitter. "Congratulations to Mr.



In a March 2, 2011 file photo, Miami Heat basketball player LeBron James, center, sits with his girlfriend Savannah Brinson, right, at a new computer during a charity event at the Northwest Boys & Girls Club in Miami.

& Mrs. James...Thanks for sharing Ur night & love with us"

The ceremony was the obvious highlight of a three-day

wedding weekend for the couple, who were high school sweethearts and are the parents of two sons. They were engaged just after midnight on Jan. 1, 2012, when James dropped to a knee and surprised his longtime girlfriend by finally popping the question as many of their close friends were gathered around.

James told AP last year that he and Brinson decided not to rush plans for their wedding, especially since last summer was hectic for him basketball-wise—James played for the U.S. in the London Olympics, helping the Americans win a gold medal, and also was involved in the wedding for one of his longtime close friends.

So the date was set for this offseason, and even after a 21-month engagement, very few details leaked out—including why the wedding was taking place in San Diego, especially

since the couple still considers Akron, Ohio as home and have essentially been based in Miami for three years now.

Also unclear: If the couple would be using social media to make any statement about the wedding - James has more than 14 million fans on Facebook, and nearly 10 million followers on Twitter.

The measures to ensure privacy were hardly a surprise. In an interview with AP last spring, Brinson acknowledged that she's leery of media coverage, since she hasn't always found it to be fair or factual.

"I've heard things about me that are bad, where they've literally looked up into the sky and said, 'What can they say about Savannah?'" Brinson told AP in April. "It's going to happen."

Television stations in San Diego showed aerial images of the hotel, including large tents set up for both the reception and to shroud the arrival of guests.

7 sports groups express interests in Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Seven local sports associations had signified their intention of sending delegates to the 2014 Micronesian Games in Pohnpei.

During the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association monthly meeting last Thursday at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, NMASA president Michael

White said he already received letters of intent from Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association, Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association (beach volleyball), Northern Marianas Swimming Federation, and Northern Mariana Islands Kanu Association. Saipan Baseball League, Inc. and Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands did not submit letters of intent last Thursday, but Tony Rogolifoi, who is an official of both groups, disclosed at

the meeting that they will be sending teams to next year's competition. Northern Marianas Athletics, which did not have a representative in last week's meeting, sent an email to White last Friday, expressing its interest in participating in the quadrennial event.

Next year's Micronesian games will run from July 20 to 29 and NMASA estimated the cost of participation per delegate at \$1,200. The association earlier set a payment scheme for the trip with the

initial payment of \$600 due on July 1 this year, while the last must be completed by Jan. 1, 2014.

However, with no one turning in payments, White said delegates will be on their own as far as arranging their flight to Pohnpei is concerned. The NMASA head added they will discuss plans for the per diem, which is pegged at \$50.

"We our encouraging you to book flights early. Flights to Pohnpei are only three to four times a week," White said.

DYS

From Page 28

to one shot per customer, while DYS' backcourt also had several steals to take away their foes fastbreak game.

Santos continued to assert his might in the paint, drilling three field goals, while Sam Darag also lit up the scoreboard in the second quarter, as DYS made it baker's done lead at the break, 27-14.

Down by 13, the Ol'Aces went out of the court and spent most of the seven-minute break

talking and mapping out a comeback plan. However, no Ol'Aces recovery was seen in the second half, as DYS poured more points to pad the advantage to 22, 40-18.

Another big man—Gerald Flores—started for DYS in the second half and nailed back-to-back baskets, while Kobe Mendoza began hitting his outside shots to move his team one quarter away from advancing to the finals. Mendoza then continued his second-half uprising, as he added 6 more points and DYS finally let its guard down, pulling out its

starters with the team ahead, 50-29, with still three minutes left in the game.

The 20-point victory avenged DYS' 33-39 loss to the Ol'Aces in the regular season. The Ol'Aces had an early rematch against DYS after bagging one of the two automatic semis berths, while the latter marched into the Final Four, following a 62-38 demolition of the DA Projects last Saturday.

KFC/Taco Bell, which defeated the Ol'Aces and DYS in a three-way tie for first place in the regular season, took the other semis slot and was battling

the Rebelholics for the second and last finals berth yesterday. Results of the second semis tiff last night will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Wednesday edition.

The Rebelholics made it to the Final Four after eliminating the Rollers last Saturday, 35-22.

DYS 50 – Darag 11, Mendoza 11, Ong 10, De Leon 6, Santos 6, Flores 4, Cenir 2.

Ol'Aces 30 – D. Sablan 12, J. Sablan 6, Nabors 4, Epity 2, Cruz 1.

Scoring by quarters: 16-5, 27-14, 40-18, 50-30.

DEETS

From Page 28

net 70.40. Batallones and Alvarez, who had a -2.40 handicap, had the same net score after a pair of 34s.

Two more teams tied for sixth

spot. Martin Sablan and Ray Demapan shot 42s for a net 70.80, deducting their 13.20 handicap, while Geon Lee and Sean Lee, who held a -10.80 handicap, had 28 and 32 on the front and back nines for the lowest gross (60) in the field and same net score.

Completing the Top 9 were

a 10-1 advantage.

Another 6-run output at the top of the fifth, highlighted by Quinson Blas' two-run single widened the Padres' distance, 16-2, and while the four other runs came in the sixth off Raulbailman's two-RBI single, Kainoa Wanket's sacrifice fly, and a stolen base.

The Cardinals scored only one run apiece in the third and fourth inning with Austin Hocog and Dave Matagolai making one-run single apiece. The Cardinals had a chance to add more runs in the

third with the bases loaded and only one run, but the runners were left stranded as the last two batters were beaten to first and flied out. The Cardinals had runners on bases anew in the fourth with one out again, but Aurel Mendiola, who advanced on a fielder's choice and stole second, was beaten to third, while Hocog suffered the same fate at first base.

John Camacho and Patrick Tenorio finished off the Cardinals with the former getting three strikeouts in the fifth and sixth inning and the latter having one and

giving up no hits in the last.

With the easy win, the Padres (7-1) kept their share of the top spot with the Braves, who also cruised to a 6-1 victory over the Giants (5-3) last Saturday.

Logan Martin shut out the Giants in the first three innings and allowed only two hits before handing the pitching chores to Cody Kaipat. Martin also had four strikeouts. Kaipat held his ground on the mound, too, while the Giants continued to struggle at bat and got only one unearned run in the sixth inning.

Fast-pitch softball meeting set for Sept. 23

The CNMI Softball Association would like to inform all interested individuals and/or team managers that group is planning to kick off the 2014 Men's Island Wide Fast-Pitch Softball League next month.

In preparation for the competition, the association would like to inform members, interested individuals, and/or team manag-

ers that there will be an organizational meeting on Sept. 23 at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium at 5:30pm. Election of officers and discussion and planning for the upcoming league will be the main agenda for the scheduled meeting.

For more information, contact Robert A. Guerrero at 287-8680. (PR)



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-----------|----|----|------|-----|
| Boston | 92 | 59 | .609 | — |
| Tampa Bay | 81 | 67 | .547 | 9½ |
| Baltimore | 79 | 70 | .530 | 12 |
| New York | 79 | 71 | .527 | 12½ |
| Toronto | 68 | 81 | .456 | 23 |

Central Division

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Detroit | 86 | 63 | .577 | — |
| Cleveland | 81 | 68 | .544 | 5 |
| Kansas City | 78 | 71 | .523 | 8 |
| Minnesota | 64 | 84 | .432 | 21½ |
| Chicago | 58 | 91 | .389 | 28 |

West Division

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|------|----|
| Oakland | 88 | 61 | .591 | — |
| Texas | 81 | 67 | .547 | 6½ |
| Los Angeles | 72 | 77 | .483 | 16 |
| Seattle | 66 | 83 | .443 | 22 |
| Houston | 51 | 98 | .342 | 37 |

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|------|----|
| Atlanta | 89 | 60 | .597 | — |
| Washington | 79 | 70 | .530 | 10 |
| Philadelphia | 69 | 80 | .463 | 20 |
| New York | 67 | 82 | .450 | 22 |
| Miami | 55 | 94 | .369 | 34 |

Central Division

| | | | | |
|------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Pittsburgh | 87 | 62 | .584 | — |
| St. Louis | 87 | 62 | .584 | — |
| Cincinnati | 84 | 66 | .560 | 3½ |
| Milwaukee | 65 | 83 | .439 | 21½ |
| Chicago | 63 | 86 | .423 | 24 |

West Division

| | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Los Angeles | 86 | 63 | .577 | — |
| Arizona | 75 | 73 | .507 | 10½ |
| San Francisco | 69 | 81 | .460 | 17½ |
| San Diego | 68 | 80 | .459 | 17½ |
| Colorado | 68 | 82 | .453 | 18½ |

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE East

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|-------------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|
| New England | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 36 | 31 |
| Miami | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 47 | 30 |
| Buffalo | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 45 | 46 |
| N.Y. Jets | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 28 | 30 |

South

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|
| Houston | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 61 | 52 |
| Indianapolis | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 41 | 41 |
| Tennessee | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 40 | 39 |
| Jacksonville | 0 | 2 | 0 | .000 | 11 | 47 |

North

| | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|------|----|----|
| Baltimore | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 41 | 55 |
| Cincinnati | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 21 | 24 |
| Pittsburgh | 0 | 1 | 0 | .000 | 9 | 16 |
| Cleveland | 0 | 2 | 0 | .000 | 16 | 37 |

West

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|
| Kansas City | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 45 | 18 |
| Denver | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 90 | 50 |
| Oakland | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 36 | 30 |
| San Diego | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 61 | 61 |

NATIONAL CONFERENCE East

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|------|----|----|
| Dallas | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 52 | 48 |
| Philadelphia | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 63 | 60 |
| N.Y. Giants | 0 | 2 | 0 | .000 | 54 | 77 |
| Washington | 0 | 2 | 0 | .000 | 47 | 71 |

South

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|
| New Orleans | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 39 | 31 |
| Atlanta | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 48 | 47 |
| Carolina | 0 | 2 | 0 | .000 | 30 | 36 |
| Tampa Bay | 0 | 2 | 0 | .000 | 31 | 34 |

North

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|
| Chicago | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 55 | 51 |
| Detroit | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 55 | 49 |
| Green Bay | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 66 | 54 |
| Minnesota | 0 | 2 | 0 | .000 | 54 | 65 |

West

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|-------|----|----|
| Seattle | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 41 | 10 |
| St. Louis | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 51 | 55 |
| San Francisco | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 37 | 57 |
| Arizona | 1 | 1 | 0 | .500 | 49 | 48 |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rotary Youth League U19 Regular Season

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



An S.J. Ol'Aces player fakes off the defense of Proa's Joe Aguilar during the regular season game in the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



A Sonics player goes for a rebound during their game against the S.J. Ol'Aces.



Proa/Mariana Resort's Joe Aguilar goes for an undergoal shot against two S.J. Ol'Aces defenders.



An Ol'Aces player pulls up for a jumper against a Kagman Cougars defender.



Kagman Cougars' Frank Mettao tried to keep the ball away from two Ol'Aces players.



The Rollers' Irvin Malonzo makes a floater against the Ol'Aces.



An Ol'Aces player beats a Rollers player for the rebound.



The S.J. Ol'Aces' Chris Mizer goes for a layup.



A Rebelholics player, right, tries to save the ball during their game against Ol'Aces.



Two Rebelholics players challenge the shot of S.J. Ol'Aces' Michael San Nicolas.



**Red Sox win
9-2, eliminate
NY from AL
East race**

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Saipan Tribune Sports



**Rodgers
has big day,
Packers beat
Redskins,
38-20**

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28 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

DYS bags first finals berth

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

DYS took the first finals seat in the U15 division of the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League after dominating the Ol'Aces, 50-30, yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

DYS was in control of the first semifinals match right at the get-go, while the Tinian-bannered players of the Ol'Aces failed to find their rhythm after making a quick trip to Saipan and a late start at the curtain-raiser. The visiting players made only 5 points in the first eight minutes of play and were outgunned by Karlo De Leon alone,



as the DYS swingman dropped the team's first 6 markers. D.J. Ong then took over midway in the opening quarter, firing 8 points to lift DYS to an early double-digit lead, 16-5.

Ong and fellow frontliners Antonio Santos also controlled the rebounds, mostly limiting the Ol'Aces

See DYS on Page 26

Deets, Mocanu lead MARPAC 40th anniversary golf winners



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MARPAC 40th Anniversary Golf Tournament winners Matt Deets, right, and Tiberius Mocanu, second left, pose for a photo with MARPAC resident manager Guy Pudney, third left, and a Budweiser model during the award ceremony for last Saturday's event at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Magellan.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Matt Deets and Tiberius Mocanu emerged as the lucky winners in MARPAC 40th Anniversary Golf Tournament held last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

The pair shot a net 74 and though their score was not a field best, the duo still took the top prize in the two-man scramble double Peoria tournament as they finished No. 40 (representing MARPAC's 40 years in the business) in the rankings. Deets and Mocanu, who had a 6 handicap, were consistent with their game in the weekend competition, carding 40s on both nines for a gross score of 80.

Joining Deets and Mocanu in the winner's circle were the Top 9 finishers in the first-ever MARPAC-hosted golf event.

Veterans Nick Sablan and Rick Kautz teamed up for a net 69.80 to post the best score among 71 pairs. They shot a 31 and 34 on the front and back nines for a gross 65. The top finisher registered a -4.80 handicap.

In second place were the tandem of former Superior Court presiding judge Edward Manibusan and Ray San Nicolas, who logged a net 70, built from their 35s on both nines and 0 handicap. Coming in at close third were Joey Dela Cruz and J.J. Atalig, who registered a net 70.20. The two Marianas Golfers Association members fired a 36 in the first nine holes and improved their performance in the last nine with a 33.

There was a tie for fourth place with Joe Limes and Harry Nakamura edging Rene Batallones and Manny Alvarez. The Nakamura-Limes duo had a 39 and 35 on the front and back nines, respectively for a gross 74, but minus its 3.60 handicap, the pair ended up with a

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DYS' Kobe Mendoza drives against two Ol'Aces defenders during the second quarter of the semis game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



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The Padres first baseman Jun Rabauliman picks up a grounder during the bottom of the first inning of their game against the Cardinals in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Padres pound Cardinals, 20-2

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REPORTER



The Padres recovered big time after absorbing their first loss of the season in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League, following a 20-2 whipping of the Cardinals last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Padres, which had their six game winning streak snapped by the Yankees, two weeks ago, resumed action at the "Tan Ko" after a weeklong lull due to rain and regained their bearings quickly with a dominating victory over the winless Cardinals (0-6).

Jun Rabauliman, the Padres recruit from the Pirates, who pulled out of the league, led his new team, hitting 3-for-5 at bat and scoring three RBIs and two runs. Lancaster Secharmidal also contributed three RBIs on a

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